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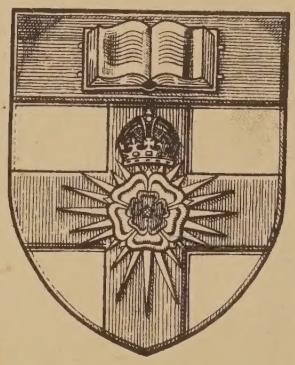

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EAST INDIA.

BARODA.—PART II.

Session

4 *November* 1852—20 *August* 1853.

VOL. LXXI.

1852-53.

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EAST INDIA.

BARODA.——Part II.

615. Removal of *Chotum Lall*, Native Agent to the Political Agent in *Kattywar* - - - - - - - - - - - p. 13

Anonymous Charges of Bribery and Corruption against Members of the *Kattywar* Political Agency - - - - - - - - 111

Charges of Corruption against *Bhugwun Lall*, and others of the *Kattywar* Political Agency - - - - - - - - - 126

Entries in the Wudwun Accounts of the Names of Thirteen Persons on the *Kattywar* Political Agency Establishment, as having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar - - - - - - - 364

Dismissal of *Roodurjee Nundaram*, a Mehta on the *Kattywar* Establishment, for Bribery - - - - - - - - - 396

Charges of Bribery against *Rughoonath Rao Ragoba*, Head Accountant, *Kattywar* - - - - - - - - - - 402

Case of *Heeralal Govindhur*, Foujdar of *Ahmedabad* - - 486

Inquiry into the Conduct of Mr. *Hanson*, Head Clerk to the Agent for Sirdars in the *Deccan* - - - - - - - - 536

Charges against the Native Establishment of the *Baroda* Residency - - - - - - - - - - - - 542

EAST INDIA.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable the House of Commons, dated 24 February 1853;—*for*,

COPIES "of all DESPATCHES, MINUTES, or other DOCUMENTS (not already laid before Parliament) relating to the attempts of *Dhackjee Dadajee* to Bribe the Bombay Government and its Servants:"

"Of all other REPORTS, LETTERS, or PAPERS received subsequently to the Year 1840, on the subject of the alleged Corruption of Officers in the Political, Revenue, or Judicial Departments under the Bombay Government, and not already laid before Parliament:"

"Of all REPORTS or REPLIES (not already laid before Parliament) returned by Political, Revenue, or Judicial Officers of the Bombay Government, to the Circular Letters on the subject of Khutput (illicit influence), addressed to them by the said Government in May 1850; with the Dates on which they were received by the Bombay Government, the Indian Government, the Court of Directors, and the Board of Control respectively:"

"Of all CORRESPONDENCE and PAPERS (not already laid before Parliament) on the subject of the said Circular Letters, or the said Reports or Replies, on the belief of the Natives in the corruptibility of the Bombay Government or its subordinate Officers, or the means of eradicating the same:"

"Of all CORRESPONDENCE and PAPERS (not already laid before Parliament) on the subject of the Conduct of the Bombay Government in 'arresting *in limine*' some of Colonel *Outram*'s most important Investigations of Official Corruption, as described in the Political Letter of the Court of Directors of the 23d day of June 1852 (Parliamentary Paper, No. 560, of Session 1852, page 17), or on the subject of the Charges against Colonel *Outram*, contained in Minutes of the Bombay Government or its members, of labouring under 'Monomania' (Parliamentary Paper, No. 560, of Session 1852, page 1285), and of being actuated by 'rancorous personal feelings' (Parliamentary Paper, No. 560, of Session 1852, page 913), in his conduct of certain of those Inquiries which the Court of Directors afterwards declare to have been conducted with a 'zeal, energy, ability, and success' entitling him to credit (Parliamentary Paper, No. 560, of Session 1852, page 27):"

"Of all DOCUMENTS on the RECORDS of the INDIA HOUSE, showing, or tending to show, the views of individual Directors in reference to Colonel *Outram*'s Removal from Office, or in reference to the treatment he received from the Bombay Government, or in reference to the probable consequences of his Removal, or in reference to the measures by which these consequences might be best averted:"

"Of all DOCUMENTS tending to show what Measures have been taken by the Bombay Government, or ordered by the Court of Directors, for the purpose of eradicating the belief in the corruptibility of high Officials, which has been declared to exist at Baroda, by Colonel *Outram*, and also by MR. *W. E. Frere*, the Commissioner despatched by Lord *Falkland*'s Government to report on certain allegations made by Colonel *Outram*, and who furnished a Report dated the 22d day of October 1851 (Parliamentary Paper, No. 560, of Session 1852, page 1013), and by other Public Servants:"

"And, of all DOCUMENTS tending to show if any or what Measures have been taken to effect the removal of, or convey censure to, the Minister and other members of the Guicowar's Durbar, pronounced Guilty by the Bombay Government of having laboured to thwart Colonel *Outram*'s legitimate and official Inquiries, and to interpose difficulties in the way of his doing justice to oppressed individuals entitled by guarantee to British Protection (Parliamentary Paper, No. 560, of Session 1852, p. 17, and p. 411)."

East India House,
June 1853.

JAMES C. MELVILL.

(*Mr. Otway.*)

(PART II.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, *to be Printed,*
15 *June* 1853.

Part II.

CONTENTS.

PAGE.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent to the Political Agent in Kattywar - - 481

Anonymous Charges of Bribery and Corruption against Members of the Kattywar Political Agency - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 579

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall, and others of the Kattywar Political Agency - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 594

Entries in the Wudwun Accounts of the Names of 13 Persons on the Kattywar Political Agency Establishment, as having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar - 830

Dismissal of Roodurjee Nundaram, a Mehta on the Kattywar Establishment, for Bribery - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 862

Charges of Bribery against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba, Head Accountant, Kattywar - 868

Case of Heeralal Govindhur, Foujdar of Ahmedabad - - - - - - - 952

Inquiry into the Conduct of Mr. Hanson, Head Clerk to the Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 1002

Charges against the Native Establishment of the Baroda Residency - - - - 1008

Part II.

LIST.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent to the Political Agent in Kattywar, on Charges of Bribery, from which he subsequently Cleared himself:

PAGE.

Extract Letter from Government to Court of Directors; dated 31 August (No. 57) 1841 - 481
Extract Letter from Court of Directors to Government; dated 22 March (No. 7) 1842 - 483
Extract Letter from Government to Court of Directors; dated 26 August (No. 52) 1843 - 483
Extract Letter from Court of Directors to Government; dated 27 March 1844 - 485
Letter from Government to Court of Directors; dated 27 April 1844 - 485
Extract Letter from Court of Directors to Government; dated 4 December (No. 36) 1844 - 487
Extract Letter from Government to Court of Directors; dated 12 November (No. 124) 1845 - 488
Letter from Political Agent at Kattywar to Secretary to Government; dated 31 December 1837 - 488
Letter to Secretary to Government to Political Agent at Kattywar; dated 23 March 1838 - 489
Translation of a Petition from Chotumlall Bappabhaee; dated 17 January 1838 - 489
Letter from Secretary to Government to First Assistant in Charge of the Kattywar Agency; dated 10 March 1838 492
Substance of a Petition from Chotumlall Bappabhaee; dated 24 May 1838 - 492
Letter from Acting Chief Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 26 June 1838 - 493
Petition from Chotumlall Bappabhaee; dated 10 October 1838 - 493
Minute by the Governor, subscribed to by the Board; dated 12 October 1838 - 494
Memorandum by the Political Secretary; dated 27 October 1838 - 494
Letter from Political Agent to Secretary to Government; dated 28 September 1838 - 495
Minute by the Governor, subscribed to by Mr. Dunlop; dated 13 November 1838 - 498
Minute by Mr. Anderson, subscribed to by the Board - 499
Letter from Secretary to Government of Bombay to Political Agent; dated 25 November 1838 - 499
Letter from Secretary to Government to Acting Judicial Commissioner for Guzerat and Konkan; dated 25 November 1838 - 500
Letter from Secretary to Government to Native Agent, Rajkote Agency; dated 25 November 1838 - 501
Letter from Officiating Judicial Commissioner to Secretary to Government; dated 10 December 1838 - 501
Letter from Secretary to Government to Political Agent Kattywar; dated 10 January 1839 - 501
Letter from Secretary to Government to Officiating Judicial Commissioner, Guzerat; dated 10 January 1839 - 502
Letter from Secretary to Government to Native Agent of the Rajkote Agency; dated 10 January 1839 - 502
Letter from Officiating Judicial Commissioner to Secretary to Government; dated 5 March 1839 - 502
Proceedings held before Mr. Giberne, &c.; dated 4 March 1839 - 503
Minute by the Governor; dated 23 March 1839 - 505
Minute by Mr. Anderson; dated 10 April 1839 - 505
Letter from Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 22 May 1839 - 506
Letter from Secretary to Government to late Native Agent of Rajkote; dated 22 May 1839 - 506
Letter from Secretary to Government to Judicial Commissioner, Guzerat; dated 22 May 1839 - 507
Letter from Political Agent to Secretary to Government; dated 25 May 1839 - 507
Minute by the Governor, subscribed to by the Board - 507
Substance of Petition from Mehta Chotum Lall Bappabhaee; dated 18 June 1839 - 507
Minute by the Governor, subscribed to by the Board; dated 1 October 1839 - 508
Letter from Acting Chief Secretary to Government to Assistant Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 11 October 1839 - 508
Substance of Petition from Chotumlall Lall Bappabhaee; dated 9 June 1839 - 508
Minute by Mr. Farish; dated 1 October 1839 - 509
Letter from Acting Secretary to Government to Acting Assistant, Kattywar; dated 17 October 1839 - 509
Resolution; dated 17 October 1839 - 509
Letter from Assistant Political Agent to Acting Secretary to Government; dated 7 November 1839 - 510
Substance of a Letter from the Chief of Rajkote to Captain Jacob; dated 5 November 1839 - 510
Letter from Secretary to Government to Political Agent, Kattywar; dated 30 December 1839 - 511
Resolution - 511
Letter from Assistant Political Agent to Acting Secretary to Government; dated 21 September 1839 - 511
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Mr. Farish; dated 12 October 1839 - 512
Letter from Acting Secretary to Government to Assistant in Charge, Kattywar Agency, at Bhooj; dated 17 October 1839 - 513
Letter from Acting Secretary to Government to head Accountant, Kattywar Agency, Bombay; dated 17 October 1839 - 513
Letter from Assistant Political Agent in Charge to Acting Secretary to Government; dated 15 October 1839 - 513
Minute by the Board; dated 9 November 1839 - 514
Letter from Acting Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 21 November 1839 - 514
Letter from Acting Chief Secretary to Government to Assistant in Charge, Rajkote Agency; dated 21 November 1839 - 515

PAGE.

Letter from Political Agent, Kattywar, to Acting Secretary to Government; dated 25 November 1839 - - 515
Letter from Secretary to Government to Assistant in Charge, Rajkote Agency; dated 23 December 1839 - - 515
Letter from Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 23 December 1839 - - - 516
Letter from Political Agent, Kattywar to Secretary to Government; dated 28 March 1840 - - - - 516
Extract Letter from Captain Lang, Political Agent, Kattywar, to Secretary to Government; dated 22 March 1837 - - - -

PAGE.

Letter from the Secretary to the Government of Bombay to Chotum Lall, &c.; dated 20 October 1843 - - 572
Petition from Chotum Lall Bappobhaee to Governor Sir George Arthur; dated 14 December 1843 - - - 572
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by the Commander-in Chief; dated 4 January 1844 - - - - 574
Minute by Mr. Anderson (no date) - - - - - - - - - - - - 574
Minute by the Governor, subscribed to by the Board; dated 22 January 1844 - - - - - - 574
Letter from Mr Secretary J. P. Willoughby to Chotum Lall Bappabhaee; dated 13 February 1844 - - 574
Letter from Mr. Secretary J P. Willoughby to Mr. Civil Auditor E. E. Elliot; dated 13 February 1844 - 575
Petition from Chotum Lall Bappoobhaee to Governor Sir Geo. Arthur; with Accompaniments, Certificates of Character, &c.; dated 4 March 1844 - - - - - - - - - - - - - 575
Note by Mr. Secretary J. P. Willoughby to the Civil Auditor; dated 9 March 1844 - - - - - 576
Letter from Civil Auditor Elliot; dated 10 April 1844 - - - - - - - - - - - 576
Minute by the Governor, subscribed to by the Board; dated 17 April 1844 - - - - - - - 577
Letter from Mr. Secretary Willoughby to Chotum Lall Bappoobhaee; dated 27 April 1844 - - - - 577
Notes by J. P. Willoughby, Chief Secretary (without date) - - - - - - - - - - 577
Letter from Secretary to Government to the Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 22 June 1844 - - - 578
Letter from the Political Agent in Kattywar to the Secretary to Government; dated 4 July 1844 - - - 578
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by others; dated 22 July 1844 - - - - - - - - - 578

Anonymous Charges of Bribery and Corruption against certain Members of the Kattywar Political Agency Establishment:

Extract Letter from Government, Bombay, to Court of Directors; dated 30 September (No. 78) 1844 - - 579
Extract Letter from Court of Directors to Government of Bombay; dated 23 April (No. 13) 1845 - - - 579
Substance of a Petition from Shah Shukheedass Nemjee; dated 14 September 1843 - - - - - 580
Minute by the Governor, subscribed to by the Board (without date) - - - - - - - - - 584
Letter from the Secretary to Government to the Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 16 December 1843 - - 584
Letter from the Political Agent in Kattewar to Secretary to Government, Bombay; dated 28 December 1843 - 584
Minute by the Honourable Board; dated 19 February 1844 - - - - - - - - - - - 588
Letter from Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 29 February 1844 - 589
Letter from the Political Agent in Katteewar to Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay; dated 8 April 1844 - 590
Letter from Assistant Political Agent to Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 25 March 1844 - - - - 591
Translation of a Memorandum from Goolabraee; dated 23 March 1844 - - - - - - - - - 593
Minute by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by Messrs. Crawford and Reid; dated 8 May 1844 - 593
Letter from Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Political Agent in Kattewar; dated 24 May 1844 - - 593

Proceedings relative to Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall, and other Members of the Kattywar Political Agency Establishment:

Letter from the Government of Bombay to the Court of Directors; dated 6 April 1846 - - - - - 594
Extract Letter from Court of Directors to Government of India; dated 29 July (No. 20) 1846 - - - 598
Extract Letter from Government of India to Court of Directors; dated 25 March (No. 50) 1848 - - - 599
Extract Letter from Court of Directors to Government of India; dated 9 August (No. 26) 1848 - - - 601
Extract Letter from Government of India to Court of Directors; dated 31 October (No. 157) 1848 - - - 601
Extract Letter from Court of Directors to Government of India; dated 21 February (No. 8) 1849 - - - 602
Extract Letter from Government of India to Court of Directors; dated 16 March (No. 18) 1849 - - - 602
Extract Letter from Court of Directors to Government of India; dated 29 August (No. 24) 1849 - - - 602
Extract Letter from Government of India to Court of Directors; dated 14 October (No. 87) 1850 - - - 602
Extract Letter from Government of India to Court of Directors; dated 25 July (No. 37) 1851 - - - 603
Extract Letter from Court of Directors to Government of India; dated 2 January (No. 1) 1852 - - - 603
Letter from Political Agent in Kutteewar to Secretary to Government; dated 24 August 1844 - - - 603
Enclosures - 604
Minute by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Messrs. Crawford and Reid; dated 24 September 1844 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 609
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 11 October 1844 - - 609
Substance of a Petition from Mansing Umurjee and others; dated 19 November 1844 - - - - - 610
Letter from Political Agent in Katteewar to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 20 February 1845 - - 610
Minute by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Board; dated 6 April 1845 - - - - 611
Letter from Political Agent in Katteewar to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 12 April 1845 - - - 612
Minute by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by others; dated 26 April 1845 - - - - - 628
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 29 April 1845 - - - 630
Substance of a Petition from Bulwuntroy Jadhewroy to the Governor in Council; dated 24 July 1844 - - 631
Letter from the Political Agent in Katteewar to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 29 November 1844 - 635
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by the Commander-in Chief and Mr. Reid; dated 6 May 1844 - - 634
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 19 May 1845 - - - 635
Letter from Political Agent in Katteewar to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 15 April 1845 - - - 635
Enclosures - 635
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 31 May 1845 - - - 642
Letter from Political Agent in Katteewar to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 3 May 1845 - - - 642

PAGE.

Enclosures - 643
Minute by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by his Excellency the Commander in Chief and Honourable Mr. Reid; dated 27 May 1845 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 654
Letter from the Chief Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 6 June 1845 - - - 655
Letter from Political Agent in Katteewar to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 16 May 1845 - - - 655
Letter from First Assistant Political Agent to Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 12 May 1845 - - - 657
Letter from Political Agent in Kattywar to Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay; dated 17 May 1845 - 657
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Messrs. Crawford and Reid; dated 23 June 1845 - - - - 657
Letter from Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 1 July 1845 - - - - 658
Resolution of Government in the Political Department; Depositions and Remarks; dated 2 July 1845 - - 658
Petition of Maunkhan Vuludey Vuleekhan; dated 4 April 1845 - - - - - - - - - 659
Letter from Chief Secretary to Maunkhan Vuludey Vuleckhan; dated 21 April 1845 - - - - - 659
Letter from Political Agent in Kattywar to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 28 April 1845 - - - 660
Letter from Political Agent in Kattywar to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 13 May 1845 - - - 660
Enclosures to the above - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 661
Minute by Sir G. Arther concurred in by Messrs. Crawford and Reid; dated 23 June 1845 - - - - 666
Letter from Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 27 June 1845 - - - 666
Letter from Political Agent in Kattywar to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 16 May 1845 - - - 667
Letter from First Assistant Political Agent to Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 12 May 1845 - - - 668
Letter from Political Agent in Kattywar to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 17 May 1845 - - - 669
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Mr. Crawford; dated 23 June 1845 - - - - - - - - 669
Minute by Mr. Reid (without date) - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 669
Letter from Secretary to the Government of Bombay to Political Agent in Kattewar; dated 1 July 1845 - - 669
Resolution of Government in the Political Department; dated 1 July 1845 - - - - - - - - 670
Letter from Political Agent in Kattywar to Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay; dated 10 May 1845 670
Petition from Shekh Nooroodeen; dated 10 May 1845 - - - - - - - - - - - - 671
Minute by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by Mr. Crawford and Mr. Reid; dated 23 June 1845 - 672
Letter from Political Agent in Kattywar to Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay; dated 15 May 1845 - 673
Petition from Goolabraee Ambashunkur; dated 13 May 1845 - - - - - - - - - - - - 673
Letter from First Assistant Political Agent in Katteewar to Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 12 April 1845 - 675
Minute by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by Mr. Crawford and Mr. Reid; dated 23 June 1845 - 677
Letter from Secretary to the Government of Bombay to Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 3 July 1845 - - 678
Petition from Nooroodeen Kazumbaye to Governor of Bombay; dated 14 May 1845 - - - - - 678
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Mr. Crawford and Mr. Reid; dated 23 June 1845 - - - - 679
Letter from Secretary to Government of Bombay to Shekh Noordeen; dated 3 July 1845 - - - - 679
Extract Bombay Political Consultation; dated 16 July 1845 - - - - - - - - - - 680
Substance of a Petition from Shah Manchund; dated 8 June 1845 - - - - - - - - - 681
Letter from the Secretary to Government to Shah Manchund; dated 21 July 1845 - - - - - - 681
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Mr. Crawford and Mr. Reid; dated 11 July 1845 - - - - 682
Resolution of Government in the Political Department; dated 21 July 1845 - - - - - - - 682
Extract Bombay Political Consultation; dated 30 July 1845 - - - - - - - - - - 682
Letter from Political Agent in Kattywar to Secretary to Government; dated 10 July 1845 - - - - 683
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Messrs. Crawford and Reid: dated 24 July 1845 - - - - 683
Letter from Madar Sing Grassiah, of Trumbah, to Governor and President in Council, Bombay; dated 16 May 1845 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 683
Translation of a Petition from Madar Sing Grassiah, to Political Agent, Kutteewar - - - - - - 684
Letter from Political Agent in Katteewar to Secretary to Government; dated 18 July 1845 - - - - 685
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Mr. Crawford and Mr. Reid; dated 9 August 1845 - - - - 685
Letter from Secretary to Government to Political Agent at Katteewar; dated 8 August 1845 - - - - 686
Extract Bombay Political Consultation; dated 3 September 1845 - - - - - - - - - 686
Letter from Political Agent in Kattewar to Secretary to Government; dated 22 August 1845 - - - - 687
Letter from Dodabhye Framjee, vakeel to Resident, Katteewar; dated 13 August 1845 - - - - - 687
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Messrs. Crawford and Reid; dated 5 September 1845 - - - 688
Extract Bombay Political Consultation; dated 17 September 1845 - - - - - - - - 688
Letter from Head Accountant, Kattywar Political Agency, to Private Secretary to Governor; dated 1 October 1845 688
Letter from Head Accountant, Kattywar Political Agency, to Governor of Bombay; dated 1 October 1845 - 689
Enclosures to above - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 697
Letter from Head Accountant, Katteewar Political Agency, to Private Secretary to the Governor, Bombay; dated 4 October 1845 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 698
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 23 October 1845 - - 702
Letter from Political Agent in Kattywar to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 3 November 1845 - - 702
Letter from Political Agent in Katteewar to Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay; dated 3 November 1845 705
Letter from Political Agent in Katteewar to Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay; dated 4 November 1845 707
Letter from Mr. Henry Aston to Mr. Foster; dated 7 November 1845 - - - - - - - - 707
Letter from Mr. Henry Foster to Captain Aston; dated 7 November 1845 - - - - - - - - 707
Letter from Mr. Henry Foster to Governor and President in Council; dated 7 November 1845 - - - 708
Letter from Political Agent to Mr. Foster; dated 4 November 1845 - - - - - - - - 708
Letter from Head Accountant, Katteewar Political Agency, to Governor and President in Council; dated 10 November 1845 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 709
Memorandum by the Political Secretary (without date) - - - - - - - - - - - - - 710
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by the Commander-in-Chief; dated 6 December 1845 - - - - 718
Minute by the Honourable Mr. Crawford; dated 8 December 1845 - - - - - - - - - 720
Minute by the Honourable Mr. Reid; dated 18 December 1845 - - - - - - - - - 720
Further Minute by the Governor; dated 19 December 1845 - - - - - - - - - - 721
Further Minute by Mr. Crawford; dated 19 December 1845 - - - - - - - - - - 722
Further Minute by the Governor; dated 20 December 1845 - - - - - - - - - - 722
Further Minute by Mr. Crawford; dated 20 December 1845 - - - - - - - - - - 722
Further Minute by Mr. Reid; dated 20 December 1845 - - - - - - - - - - - 722
Further Minute by the Governor; dated 31 December 1845 - - - - - - - - - - 723
Letter from Political Agent in Katteewar to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 13 November 1845 - - 723

PAGE.

Letter from First Assistant Political Agent to Political Agent in Kattewar; dated 7 November 1845 - - 724
Letter from First Assistant Political Agent to Political Agent, Katteewar; dated 8 November 1845 - - - 724
Minute by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Commander-in-Chief; dated 13 December 1845 - 725
Letter from Chief Secretary to Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 15 January 1846 - - - - - 725
Letter from Chief Secretary to Mr. H. Foster, Rajcote, Katteewar; dated 15 January 1846 - - - - 729
Letter from Political Agent in Katteewar to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 2 January 1846- - - 729
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by the Commander-in-Chief and Mr. Reid (without date) - - - 729
Letter from the Political Agent in Katteewar to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 17 January 1846 - - 730
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Mr. Reid (without date) - - - - - - - - - - 731
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 6 February 1846 - - 731
Letter from Mr. Henry Foster to Governor and President in Council, Bombay; dated 29 January 1846 - - 732
Letter from Political Agent to Mr. Foster; dated 21 January 1846 - - - - - - - - - - 732
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by the Commander-in-Chief and Mr. Reid; dated 10 February 1846 - 732
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Mr. H. Foster, Rajkote; dated 13 February 1846 - - - 732
Letter from Political Agent in Katteewar to Secretary to Government; dated 8 September 1847 - - - 733
Letter from Acting First Assistant Political Agent to Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 9 June 1847 - - 734
Letter from Political Agent in Katteewar to Acting First Assistant Political Agent; dated 26 June 1847 - 735
Letter from Acting First Assistant Political Agent to Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 4 September 1847 - 736
Letter from Rana Barajee, Kusheeajee Amabhaee and another, to Thukur Nuthoo Deokum; dated 31 Oct. 1847 - 736
Deposition of Hurreebhae Togabaee; dated 7 June 1847 - - - - - - - - - - - 737
Deposition of Doorgadass Dyarum; dated 6 July 1847 - - - - - - - - - - - - 738
Deposition of Khetsee Ghela; dated 3 July 1847 - - - - - - - - - - - - - 739
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Mr. Reid and Mr. Willoughby; dated 25 September 1847 - - 740
Minute by Mr. Willoughby; dated 30 September 1847 - - - - - - - - - - - 741
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 4 October 1847 - - - 741
Letter from Political Agent in Kattywar to Secretary to Government; dated 18 August 1847 - - - - 741
Enclosures, containing Petitions, extract from the Books of Sunganee Jeena Kemjee, &c. - - - - 744
Letter from First Assistant Political Agent to Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 2 February 1847 - - - 756
Minute by the Governor; dated 25 October 1847 - - - - - - - - - - - - 757
Minute by Mr. Willoughby, concurred in by the Governor and Mr. Reid; dated 30 October 1847 - - - 757
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 12 November 1847 - - 758
Letter from the Political Agent in Kattywar to Secretary to Government, Bombay; dated 15 September 1847 - 758
Enclosures to the above, with Petition from Bugwan Lal Mudunjee to Political Agent, &c. - - - - 762
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Messrs. Reid and Willoughby; dated 2 December 1847 - - - 783
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 9 December 1847 - - 784
Letter from Chief Secretary to Resident at Baroda; dated 9 December 1847 - - - - - - - 786
Resolution of Government in the Political Department; dated 9 December 1847 - - - - - - 786
Letter from Political Agent in Kattywar to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 25 September 1847 - - 787
Enclosures to the above, with Petition from Katcher Chela Watsoor, of Jusdhun, to Political Agent, &c. - - 788
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Messrs. Reid and Willoughby; dated 3 December 1847 - - - 794
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 9 December 1847 794
Letter from Political Agent in Kattywar to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 8 January 1848 - - - 796
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by the Commander-in-Chief and Messrs. Reid and Willoughby; dated 25 January 1848 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 797
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 31 January 1848 - - 797
Letter from Political Agent in Katteewar to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 5 May 1848 - - - 798
Accompaniments to the above - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 800
Letter from First Assistant Political Agent to Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 12 January 1847 - - 810
Letter from First Assistant Political Agent to Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 3 June 1846 - - - 813
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Commander-in-Chief and Mr. Willoughby; dated 23 May 1848 - 814
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 27 May 1848 - - - 814
Substance of a Petition from Kusulsung Umarsung; dated 6 October 1848 - - - - - - - - 815
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by the Board; dated 21 November - - - - - - - 817
Minute by Mr. Willoughby, concurred in by the Board; dated 24 November - - - - - - - 817
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 30 November 1848 - - 818
Letter from Political Agent in Kattywar to Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay; dated 15 January 1849 818
Substance of a Petition from Kusulsung Unarsung; dated 6 October 1848 - - - - - - - - 819
Minute by the Honourable Board; dated 24 January 1849 - - - - - - - - - - 822
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 25 January 1849 - - 822
Extract Letter from the Court of Directors to the Government of Bombay; dated 29 August 1849 - - - 822
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 6 November 1849 - - 822
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 7 February 1850 - - 823
Letter from Political Agent in Kattywar to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 1 July 1850 - - - 823
Letter from Political Agent in Katteewar to Secretary to the Government of Bombay; dated 19 April 1851 - 823
Letter from Third Assistant Political Agent in Kattywar to Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 7 April 1851 - 824
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Messrs. Blane and Bell; dated 1 May 1851 - - - - - 827
Letter from Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay to Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 10 May 1851 - 828
Letter from Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay to Secretary to the Board of Education, Bombay; dated 10 May 1851 - 828
Letter from Secretary to the Board of Education to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 14 June 1851 - 828
Letter from Head Master Government English School to Secretary to the Board of Education, Bombay; dated 6 June 1851 - 829
Minute by the Honourable Mr. Blane, concurred in by Mr. Bell; dated 20 June 1851 - - - - - - 829
Letter from Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay to Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 27 June 1851 - 829

Entries in the Wudwun Accounts of the Names of 13 Persons on the Kattywar Political Agency Establishment, as having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar:

PAGE.

Extract Political Letter from the Government of Bombay to Court of Directors; dated 25 April (No. 27) 1844 - 830
Extract Political Letter from the Government of Bombay to Court of Directors; dated 20 May (No. 76) 1846 - 830
Extract Political Letter from the Court of Directors to Government of Bombay; dated 30 September (No. 26) 1846 - 832
Extract Letter from the Political Agent in Kattywar to Secretary to Government of Bombay; dated 19 May 1843 - 832
Extract Minute by the Governor, subscribed to by the Board; dated 5 January 1844 - - - - - - 832
Letter from the Political Agent in Kattywar to J. P. Willoughby, Esq., Chief Secretary, Bombay; dated 16 December 1844 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 833
Enclosure No. 1 to Government Letter (No. 146); dated 16 December 1844 - - - - - - - - 834
Tranlation of a Letter from the Regent Baee Bhaeeraj, of Midwan, to A. Malet, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 31 July 1844 - 836
Minute by the Honourable Board; dated 5 February 1845 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 841
Letter from Mr. Chief Secretary J. P. Willoughby, Esq., to A. Malet, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 11 February (No. 780) 1845 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 842
Extract para. 11, Letter from the Court of Directors; dated 4 December (No. 36) 1844 - - - - - - 842
Letter from Chief Secretary J. P. Willoughby, Esq., to A. Malet, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 25 April 1845 - 843
Letter from the Political Agent in Kattywar to J. P. Willoughby, Esq.; dated 20 February 1845 - - - 843
Minute by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and the Honourable Mr. Reid; dated 6 May 1845 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 843
Letter from Chief Secretary J. P. Willoughby, Esq., to A. Malet, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 19 May 1845 - 844
Letter from Chief Secretary J. P. Willoughby, Esq., to A. Malet, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 6 October (No. 4625) 1845 - 844
Letter from Chief Secretary J. P. Willoughby, Esq., to A. Malet, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 17 December (No. 5556) 1845 - 844
Letter from the Political Agent in Kattywar to J. P. Willoughby, Esq.; dated 15 January (No. 20) 1846 - 844
Statement of Receipts and Disbursements of the Wudwun Talooka, from 2d Kartigsood, St. 1899, to 2d Kartigsood, St. 1900 - 846
Ditto - ditto - from Kartigsood 2d, to Assowud 15th, St. 1900 - - - - - - - - 848
Ditto - ditto - from Kartigsood 2d, to Assowud, St. 1901 - - - - - - - - 850
Minute by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Board; dated 25 March 1846 - - - - 852
Letter from Chief Secretary J. P. Willoughby, Esq., to A. Malet, Esq.; dated 1 April 1846 - - - - 854
Letter from the Political Agent in Kattywar to Chief Secretary J. P. Willoughby, Esq.; dated 11 August 1846 856
Minute by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. Reid; dated 21 April 1846 - 857
Letter from J. P. Willoughby, Esq., to A. Malet, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 25 April 1846 - 858
Letter from the Political Agent in Katteewar to Chief Secretary J. P. Willoughby, Esq.; dated 15 January 1846 858
Minute by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief; dated 24 March 1846 - 860
Minute by the Honourable Mr. Crawford (no date) - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 861
Minute by the Honourable Mr. Reid; dated 25 March - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 861
Minute by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and the Honourable Mr. Reid (no date) - 861
Minute by the Honourable Mr. Crawford (no date) - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 861
Letter Mr. Chief Secretary J. P. Willoughby, Esq. to A. Malet, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 22 April (No. 1565) 1846 - 861

Dismissal of Roodurjee Nundaram, a Mehta on the Kattywar Political Agency Establishment, for Bribery:

Extract Political Letter from the Government of Bombay to Court of Directors; dated 31 October (No. 115) 1849 - 862
Extract Political Letter from the Court of Directors to Government of Bombay; dated 13 February (No. 3) 1850 - 862
Substance of a Petition from Vakeel Mehta Doorgadass Dayaram, of Talooka Wurwhan, to the Honourable the Governor in Council; dated 12 March 1848 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 862
Letter from the Political Agent in Kattywar to A. Malet, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government of Bombay; dated 16 September 1848 - 863
Minute by the Right Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Honourable the Board; dated 24 October 1848 - 864
Letter from Mr. Chief Secretary A. Malet to Major W. Lang; dated 31 October 1848 - - - - - - 864
Resolution - 864
Letter from Mr. Chief Secretary A. Malet to Major W. Lang; dated 18 June 1849 - - - - - - 864
Letter from the Political Agent in Katteewar to A. Malet, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay; dated 15 September 1849 - 865

PAGE.

Letter from Mr. Assistant Political Agent J. T. Barr to the Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 16 May 1848 - 865
Letter from Mr. Assistant Political Agent J. T. Barr to the Political Agent in Katteewar; (no date) - - - 867
Letter from Mr. Assistant Political Agent J. T. Barr to the Political Agent in Katteewar; dated 18 July 1848 - 867
Minute by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. Willoughby and the Honourable Mr. Blane; dated 9 October 1849 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 867
Letter from Mr. Chief Secretary A. Malet to Major William Lang, Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 16 October 1849 - 868

Charges of Bribery against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba, Head Accountant of the Kattywar Political Agency:

Extract Political Letter from the Government of Bombay to the Court of Directors; dated 14 December (No. 111) 1850 - 868
Extract Political Letter from the Government of Bombay to the Court of Directors; dated 15 November (No. 114) 1852 - 868
Extract Political Letter from the Court of Directors to the Government of Bombay; dated 30 March (No. 11) 1853 - 868
Substance of a Petition from Umersee Anundjee, inhabitant of Katteewar, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council; dated 11 January 1850 - 869
Minute by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and the Honourable Mr. Blane; dated 4 May 1850 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 870
Letter from Mr. Secretary Goldsmid to Captain H. Aston; dated 14 May 1850 - - - - - - - - 870
Substance of a Petition from Lukureechund Lallchund, residing at Rajcote; dated 15 December 1849 - - 870
Minute by the Honourable Mr. Willoughby, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. Blane; dated 15 May 1850 - 873
Letter from H. E. Goldsmid, Esq., Secretary to Government, to Captain H. Aston; dated 18 May 1850 - - 873
Letter from Captain H. Aston, First Assistant Political Agent, to H. E. Goldsmid, Esq.; dated 30 May 1850 - 873
Letter to Captain H. Aston from A. Malet, Esq.; dated 14 June 1850 - - - - - - - - - - - 874
Letter from the Political Agent in Katteewar to Arthur Malet, Esq.; dated 20 September 1851 - - - 874
Letter from First Assistant Political Agent in Katteewar to Political Agent; dated 18 September 1851 - - 875
Petition from Truvaree Bhutoor Veneeram to Captain Aston; dated 16 September 1851 - - - - - - 875
Substance of a Petition from Bhutoor Veneeram to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council; dated 28 July 1851 - 876
Minute by the Honourable Mr. Blane, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. Bell; dated 14 October 1851 - - 879
Substance of a Petition from Mehta Bhutoor Veneeram to the Governor in Council; dated 18 September 1851 - 879
Minute by the Honourable Mr. Blane, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. Bell; dated 21 October 1851 - 880
Memorandum by the Chief Secretary; dated 26 October 1851 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 880
Letter from A. Malet, Esq., to Major Lang; dated 4 November 1851 - - - - - - - - - - - 880
Resolution of Government in the Political Department; dated 4 November 1851 - - - - - - - - 880
Letter from the Political Agent in Katteewar to Arthur Malet, Esq.; dated 30 October 1851 - - - - - 881
Minute by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. Blane and the Honourable Mr. Bell; dated 13 November 1851 - 881
Letter from A. Malet, Esq., to Major W. Lang; dated 20 November 1851 - - - - - - - - - - 882
Memorandum by Mr. Deputy Secretary A. Richardson; dated 12 November 1851 - - - - - - - 882
Letter from the Political Agent in Katteewar to Arthur Malet, Esq.; dated 24 November 1851 - - - 883
Minute by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Board; dated 6 January 1852 884
Letter from A. Malet, Esq, to Major Lang; dated 15 January 1852 - - - - - - - - - - - 884
Substance of a Petition to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council; dated 21 August 1852 - - - 884
Minute by the Honourable Mr. Blane, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. Bell; dated 26 October 1852 - 885
Letter from A. Malet, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, to Major Lang; dated 27 October 1852 - - 885
Letter from Major Lang to H. E. Goldsmid, Esq.; dated 10 April 1852 - - - - - - - - - - 885
Letter from Mr. Assistant Political Agent, J. T. Barr, to Political Agent; dated 26 March 1852 - - - 888
Petition of Bhutoor Weeneram to Captain Barr; dated 17 December 1851 - - - - - - - - - 889
Other Petitions and Depositions, &c. - 890
Letter from Rugonath Ragoba to Major W. Lang; dated 11 March 1852 - - - - - - - - - 913
Minute by the Right Honourable the Governor; dated 24 April 1852 - - - - - - - - - - 915
Minute by the Honourable Mr. Bell; dated 1 May 1852 - - - - - - - - - - - - 916
Minute by the Honourable Mr. Warden; dated 18 May 1852 - - - - - - - - - - 918
Letter from Rugonath Ragoba to the Honourable Mr. Warden; dated 9 April 1852 - - - - - - - 918
Minute by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Messrs. Blane and Bell; dated 21 May 1852 - 921
Letter from A. Malet, Esq., to Major William Lang; dated 8 June 1852 - - - - - - - - 921
Petition from Rugunath Ragoba to the Governor in Council; dated 9 April 1852 - - - - - - - 923
Letter from Major Lang to Arthur Malet, Esq.; dated 24 June 1852 - - - - - - - - - 928
Letter from the Political Agent in Kattiawur to Captain J. T. Barr; dated 3 May 1852 - - - - - - 933
Letter to the Political Agent in Kattiawur from J. T. Barr, Esq.; dated 10 May 1852 - - - - - - 933
Letter from Rugonath Ragoba to Lord Falkland; dated 16 April 1852 - - - - - - - - - - 935
Memorandum of Service; Certificate - 935
Extract Letter from A. C. Stuart, Esq.; dated 6 September 1852 - - - - - - - - - - 936
Letter to W. R. Morris, Esq., from A. Malet, Esq.; dated 20 February 1846 - - - - - - - - 937
Letter from R. T. Webb to the Political Agent in Kattywar; dated 28 March 1846 - - - - - - 937
Extract from a Note from Major W. Lang to Rughonath Ragoba; dated 20 December 1847 - - - - - 937
Letter from J. W. Henry, Esq., to Rugonath Ragoba; dated 7 June 1850 - - - - - - - - 939
Letter from H. Malet, Esq.; dated 5 November 1851 - - - - - - - - - - - - 939
Letter to Rugonath Ragoba; dated 28 November 1851 - - - - - - - - - - - - 939
Letter to A. Malet, Esq.; dated 3 July 1852 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 939

PAGE.

Letter to the Political Agent in Kattiawar; dated 1 July 1852 - - - - - - - - - - 940
Minute by the Honourable Mr. Bell; dated 12 July 1852 - - - - - - - - - - 940
Memorandum; dated 23 July 1852 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 940
Minute by the Right Honourable the Governor; dated 31 July 1852 - - - - - - - - 941
Minute by the Honourable Mr. Blane; dated 3 August 1852 - - - - - - - - - 942
Minute by the Honourable Mr. Bell; dated 3 August 1852 - - - - - - - - - - 942
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Mr. Blane; dated 11 August 1852 - - - - - - - 942
Letter from the Chief Secretary A. Malet to Major Lang; dated 17 August 1852 - - - - - - 943
Letter from the Political Agent in Kattiawur to A. Malet, Esq.; dated 28 August 1852 - - - - - 944
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Messrs. Blane and Bell; dated 18 September 1852 - - - - 945
Letter from Mr. Chief Secretary A. Malet to Major W. Lang; dated 28 September 1852 - - - - 946
Letter from the Political Agent in Katteewar to Arthur Malet, Esq.; dated 1 September 1852 - - - 946
Memorandum accompanying the above Letter - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 947
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Mr. Blane; dated 2 October 1852 - - - - - - - 947
Minute by Mr. Bell; dated 6 October 1852 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 948
Letter from Mr. Chief Secretary A. Malet to Major W. Lang; dated 20 October 1852 - - - - - 948
Notification; dated 22 December 1843 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 948
Letter from the Political Agent in Katteewar to A Malet, Esq.; dated 18 September 1852 - - - - 949
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Messrs. Blane and Bell; dated 2 October 1852 - - - - 951
From A. Malet, Esq., to Major Lang; dated 11 October 1852 - - - - - - - - - - 951

Case of Heeralal Govindhur, Foujdar of Ahmedabad :

Extract Judicial Letter from Bombay; dated 15 November 1851 - - - - - - - - - - 952
Extract Judicial Letter to Bombay; dated 4 August 1852 - - - - - - - - - - 952
Letter from the Magistrate of Ahmedabad; dated 24 January 1850 - - - - - - - - - 953
Letter from A. Bettington, Esq., to W. H. Harrison, Esq.; dated 24 January 1850 - - - - - 953
With Appendices (A.) to (C.) - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 959
Minute by the Governor; dated 18 February 1850 - - - - - - - - - - - 961
Minute by Mr. Willoughby; dated 21 February 1850 - - - - - - - - - - - 962
Minute by Mr. Blane; dated 21 February 1850 - - - - - - - - - - - - - 962
Letter from Mr. Secretary Lumsden to the Registrar of the Sudder Adawlut; dated 23 February 1850 - - 963
Letter from the Registrar; dated 21 February 1850 - - - - - - - - - - - 963
Minute by the Governor, subscribed to by the Board; dated 1 March 1850 - - - - - - - - 964
From the Magistrate of Ahmedabad; dated 31 July 1849 - - - - - - - - - - 964
Letter to Albemarle Bettington, Esq.; dated 31 July 1849 - - - - - - - - - - 965
Minute by the Governor; dated 30 August 1849 - - - - - - - - - - - - 965
Minute by Mr. Willoughby, subscribed to by Mr. Blane; dated 1 September 1849 - - - - - - 965
Further Minute by the Governor; dated 8 July 1850 - - - - - - - - - - - 965
Letter from the Registrar; dated 24 August 1849 - - - - - - - - - - - - 965
Letter to the Acting Magistrate of Ahmedabad; dated 24 February 1851 - - - - - - - - 966
Letter to the Registrar; dated 21 March 1851 - - - - - - - - - - - - 966
Minute by Mr. Willoughby, subscribed to by Mr. Blane; dated 11 April 1851 - - - - - - 966
Letter to the Registrar; dated 30 April 1851 - - - - - - - - - - - - 967
Letter from the Registrar; dated 19 March 1850 - - - - - - - - - - - - 967
Series of Extracts, Examinations of Prisoners, Decisions of the Court, &c. - - - - - - - - 967
Minute by J Warden, Esq., Puisne Judge - - - - - - - - - - - - - 989
Second Minute by J. Warden, Esq. - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 990
Minute by G. Grant, Esq., Puisne Judge - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 991
Minute by J. Warden, Esq.; dated 3 December 1849 - - - - - - - - - - - 991
Letter from W. H. Harrison, Esq.; dated 5 February 1850 - - - - - - - - - - 992
Minute by Mr. Bell; dated 26 May 1850 - - - - - - - - - - - - - 993
Minute by the Governor; dated 8 June 1850 - - - - - - - - - - - - 993
Minute by Mr. Willoughby; dated 21 January 1851 - - - - - - - - - - - 995
Minute by Mr. Blane; dated 3 February 1851 - - - - - - - - - - - - 998
Further Minute by the Governor; dated 8 February 1851 - - - - - - - - - - 999
Further Minute by Mr. Willoughby, subscribed to by the Board; dated 10 February 1851 - - - - 1000
Letter to A. Bettington, Esq.; dated 27 February 1851 - - - - - - - - - - 1000
Letter to the Registrar to the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut; dated 27 February 1851 - - - - - 1001

Inquiry into the Conduct of Mr. Hanson, Head Clerk in the Office of the Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan :

Extract Political Letter from the Government of Bombay to Court of Directors; dated 31 December 1849 - 1002
Extract Political Letter to Bombay; dated 27 March 1850 - - - - - - - - - - - 1002
Petition to the Governor in Council, Bombay; dated 21 May 1849 - - - - - - - - - 1002
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Messrs. Willoughby and Blane; dated 28 May 1849 - - - 1003
Letter from Mr. Chief Secretary A. Malet to W. J. Hunter, Esq.; dated 1 June 1849 - - - - - 1003
Letter from Mr. Chief Secretary A Malet to W. J. Hunter, Esq.; dated 14 July 1849 - - - - - 1004
Letter from Mr. Chief Secretary A. Malet to W. J. Hunter, Esq.; dated 7 August 1849 - - - - - 1004
Office Memorandum; dated 22 August 1849 - - - - - - - - - - - - - 1004
Letter from W. J. Hunter, Esq. to A. Malet, Esq.; dated 9 August 1849 - - - - - - - 1005
Letter from the Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan to the Chief Secretary to Government; dated 5 October 1849 1005
Minute by the Governor, concurred in by Messrs. Willoughby and Blane; dated 9 October 1849 - - - 1005
Letter to W. J. Hunter, Esq.; dated 13 October 1849 - - - - - - - - - - - - 1005
Letter from the Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan to Mr. Chief Secretary A. Malet; dated 25 October 1849 - 1006
Minute by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Board; dated 6 November 1849 - - 1007

Charge of Bribery and Corruption against the Native Establishment of the Baroda Residency:

PAGE.

Extract Letter from Government of Bombay to Court of Directors; dated 13 April (No. 51) 1847 - - - 1008
Extract Letter from Court of Directors to Government of Bombay; dated 18 August (No. 21) 1847 - - - 1008
Extract Letter from Government of Bombay to Court of Directors; dated 27 February (No. 30) 1847 - - 1008
Extract Letter from Court of Directors to Government of Bombay; dated 16 June (No. 14) 1847 - - - 1008
Extract Letter from Government of Bombay to Court of Directors; dated 16 February (No. 16) 1850 - - 1008
Extract Letter from Court of Directors to Government of Bombay; dated 12 June (No. 18) 1850 - - - 1009
Substance of a Petition from Goolabchund Sheochund to the Governor in Council; dated 20 August 1846 - 1009
Minute by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by Messrs. Willoughby and Blane; dated 30 October 1846 - - -

PAGE.

Report by the Officiating Resident at Baroda; dated 5 August 1849 - - - - - - - - - 1029
Minute by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Messrs. Willoughby and Blane; dated 3 September 1849 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 1029
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Acting Resident at Baroda; dated 8 September 1849 - - - 1030
Letter from Acting Resident at Baroda to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 13 September 1849 - - 1030
Minute by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Messrs. Willoughby and Blane; dated 25 September 1849 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 1030
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Officiating Resident at Baroda; dated 1 October 1849 - - 1030
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Officiating Resident at Baroda; dated 16 November 1849 - - 1031
Letter from Acting Resident at Baroda to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 14 November 1849 - - 1031
Translation of Proceedings held before Assistant Resident; dated 5 April 1849 - - - - - - - 1031
Minute by the Right Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Honourable Board; dated 20 November 1849 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 1032
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Officiating Resident at Baroda; dated 26 November 1849 - - 1032
Letter from Acting Resident at Baroda to Chief Secretary to Government; dated 14 December 1849 - - 1032
Minute by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Board; dated 15 January 1850 - - - 1034
Letter from Chief Secretary to Government to Officiating Resident at Baroda; dated 22 January 1850 - - 1035
Resolution; dated 22 January 1850 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 1035

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent to the Political Agency in Kattywar, on Charges of Bribery, from which he subsequently cleared himself.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

Extract Political Letter from Bombay, dated 31 August (No. 57) 1841.

20. We beg to state that, on receipt of this letter, we forwarded copies of paras. 14 to 19 to the Political Agent in Katteewar for the information of that officer; and we take this opportunity of submitting to your Honourable Court extracts from our subsequent proceedings in this case, as regards Chotum Lall, taking, in the first place, for the clearer elucidation of the subject, a brief view of the circumstances which led the Government of the day to dismiss this individual from the situation of head native agent in the office of the Political Agent in that province.

21. Chotum Lall was suspended from his situation on the 27th July 1836, in consequence of suspicions which Mr. Erskine, the then Political Agent, entertained of that individual having received certain bribes; and, on the 12th October following, Mr. Erskine submitted the result of his inquiries into the charges against Chotum Lall.

22. On a review of the proceedings submitted by Mr. Erskine, Government resolved that Chotum Lall should be dismissed from his situation, on account of the very strong, if not conclusive, suspicions which attached to him of his being guilty of the charges brought against him; but, in consideration of the possible doubt which existed of his innocence, Government did not deem it expedient to adopt the recommendation made by Mr. Erskine, of dismissing him with disgrace, and determined to postpone for future consideration, the propriety or otherwise of hereafter employing him elsewhere in some inferior situation.

Letter, No. 8 of 1839, dated 21 August.

Paras. 14 and 15. The Court proceed to remark on the results of the inquiry into the fact brought to the notice of Government by Mr. Willoughby, prior to that gentleman leaving the Province of Kattewar, and subsequently investigated by Captain Lang and Mr. Erskine, of a sum of money having been sent to Rajkote by the Nuwab of Joonaghur, for the purpose of bribing Mr. Willoughby and certain natives on his establishment; and the Court state, that the very efficient investigation which this matter underwent, has fully established that the Nuwab's servants, in league with Gopal Rao, lately attached to the Political Agent's establishment, had induced the Nuwab, in the hope of obtaining a favourable settlement of his dispute with the Seeddees of Jaffrabad, to send 31,000 rupees to Rajkote, to be put into the hands of Gopal Rao, of which the Nuwab was led to believe that 25,000 rupees were for Mr. Willoughby, 5,000 rupees for Mr. Willoughby's head native agent, Chotum Lall, and the remaining 1,000 rupees for Gopal Row himself. The Court, although this Government does not consider it to have been entirely proved that Chotum Lall was privy to the fact, and would have received a portion of the bribe, but for the discovery of the plot, still the fact is, by the evidence adduced, rendered to their minds almost certain.

Paras. 16 and 17. The Court then remark, that Gopal Rao and Chotum Lall, having been put upon their defence, various other charges of corruption appeared against them, and that, among others, the grave one was preferred against Chotum Lall, of having participated in the produce of the Monjpour robbery, and for participation in which, two other natives of the agency establishment are now suffering imprisonment. The Court notice the fact of Gopal Rao's guilt in this affair having been traced home to him, and his dismissal with disgrace from the service of Government, and adverting to the circumstance of this Government, although dismissing Chotum Lall from his situation in Katteewar, considering him, in consequence of his guilt being less clearly established as that of Gopal Row, not excluded from holding some other appointment under Government, desire that, if this individual be re-employed at all, it be only in a subordinate situation.

23. On the 17th January 1838 we received a petition from Chotum Lall, in which that individual strongly protested his innocence of the whole of the charges which had been preferred against him by Mr. Erskine, and solicited that a re-investigation of his case might be entered into. The petition of this individual was, under date the 10th March 1838, referred to Mr. Erskine for any observations he might have to offer on the statement made by Chotum Lall, and as it appeared from that gentleman's reply, dated the 28th September, following, that Chotum Lall was not present to defend himself when the fourth charge against him was investigated by Mr. Erskine, we were of opinion that it would be only just to give that individual a re-hearing on that charge.

24. The fourth charge against Chotum Lall was as follows:

"Having received the sum of 300 rupees as a bribe to conceal his knowledge of the parties concerned in a very serious and extensive robbery committed in January 1832, at the village of Monjpoor in the Dussara Talooka, in Kattywar."

25. As reported in the 17th para. of our despatch, dated the 14th May, No. 47 of 1838, we, on a full consideration of the evidence obtained by Mr. Erskine, on his investigation of this charge in 1837, were of opinion that it was one of of vehement and scarcely conquerable suspicion against Chotum Lall, but not one of which he could be positively convicted.

26. In coming to the resolution in 1838 of giving Chotum Lall a re-hearing on

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

on this charge, we had no intention of restoring him to his former situation in Kattywar should he, on a further inquiry, be able to exonerate himself from the imputation, but it appeared to us that if the result of that inquiry should be entirely favourable to that individual, it would more clearly open the way to his admission to employment in some other department under Government, and that if, on the other hand, the result of a re-investigation of this charge should be unfavourable to him, it would place him in a more unequivocal position than before, and afford grounds for his entire exclusion from future employment in the public service.

27. In consideration of all the circumstances of the case, we were of opinion that it would not be desirable to employ Mr. Erskine to conduct the re-investigation of this charge; and as Mr. Giberne, the late Judicial Commissioner for the Deccan and Concan, was then at the point of proceeding on a circuit to Dhoolka and Gogo, we determined to confide this duty to that gentleman, and on the 25th November 1838 we directed him during his approaching circuit to visit Rajkote for that purpose.

28. The proceedings adopted by Mr. Giberne in the re-investigation of this charge will be found in Enclosure No. 20 to Collection No. 3, accompanying this despatch, and the result has been a conviction on our minds that Chotum Lall is not guilty of having received the bribe imputed to him, and we have therefore fully acquitted him of that charge.

29. In communicating the above decision to Mr. Erskine on the 22d May 1839, we informed that gentleman that as Chotum Lall had not been found guilty of any of the charges which had been preferred against him, although his conduct is still open to strong suspicion, we thought it but right to modify the sentence which had been formerly passed against him of dismissal from the service of Government, so far as to permit his being employed on any vacancy occurring in any subordinate situation under the British Government out of the province of Kattywar.

30. On the 9th June 1839 and the 20th November 1840, we received two petitions from Chotum Lall, in which he preferred the following requests, on the ground, as he stated, of his having been acquitted of all the charges which had been preferred against him by Mr. Erskine:

1st. That he may be appointed to some situation similar to the one which he formerly held in Katteewar, namely, head native agent.

2d. That he may be allowed to draw the full pay of his former situation in Katteewar from the date of his suspension in July 1836 up to such period as he may be appointed to some other situation.

3d. That, should Government refuse a compliance with the above requests in consequence of the suspicions which at present attach to his character, a re-investigation may be ordered to be made into his whole case.

31. In reply, we informed Chotum Lall that, under the orders of your Honourable Court, we are precluded from appointing him to a situation similar to the one which he held in Katteewar, but that, as your Honourable Court had stated that you would not object to his being appointed to some subordinate situation, we had directed the Revenue Commissioner to nominate him to the first vacant mamlutdarship, and that we could not comply with his application to be permitted to draw the full salary of the situation of head native agent to the Political Agent in Katteewar for the period mentioned by him, but that we would permit him to draw the sum of *Rs.* 2,485. 5. 2. which remained unappropriated of the salary of his situation between the 27th July 1836, the dates on which he was first suspended, and the 11th November 1837, the date of the Government order directing his dismissal.

32. In a petition dated the 17th May last Chotum Lall has appealed against the above decision, and solicited that his case may be referred for the re-consideration of your Honourable Court, and the whole of our proceedings on this subject being now before you, it remains for you either to confirm the orders contained in your letter of the 21st August 1839, or to modify them, should you see any just and sufficient grounds for such a measure.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

Kattywar.

EXTRACT Political Letter to Bombay, dated 22 March (No. 7) 1842.

Para. 6. YOU have referred for our further consideration the case of Chotum Lall, late native agent to the Kattywar Political Agency, who was dismissed from that office because he was more than suspected to have participated in the extensive system of bribery discovered among the native servants of the Agency. He had not, however, been positively convicted of any corrupt act, and as it appeared that on one of the charges preferred against him, he had not had an opportunity of defending himself, you determined that this one charge should be re-investigated by Mr. Giberne. On the rehearing, the case against Chotum Lall broke down completely by the discrepancies between the testimony of the witnesses and the evidence they had given on the former investigation. He was therefore acquitted of this charge, and has since petitioned for a similar re-investigation of his other imputed offences, but this you have not thought yourselves at liberty to grant in consequence of our having intimated to you that we had a strong impression of Chotum Lall's guilt, and directed that he should hereafter be employed by Government in no other than a subordinate capacity.

7. It was quite within your authority, however, to order a new investigation without a reference to us, in a case which we had expressly stated to be only one of strong presumption, not positive proof; and the grounds we now have for believing that Chotum Lall has been calumniated in, at least, one of the cases in which Mr. Erskine considered him guilty, give him a claim to be allowed to prove that a similar error was committed by that gentlemen in the other three cases. Should the result be favourable to Chotum Lall, he may be allowed to retire on the usual pension, should he still wish to do so, or he may be appointed to any vacant situation for which he is duly qualified.

8. You permitted Chotum Lall to receive the salary of his situation in Kattywar for the period which elapsed between his suspension and his removal from the office of native agent, deducting from the amount the sums which had been paid to certain persons "in consideration of the extra duty performed by them during Chotum Lall's suspension and after his dismissal." As he was not allowed the benefit of the salary which accrued after his dismissal, the sum paid to him ought not to have been diminished by the remuneration granted to others for services performed after that period.

See Mr. Willoughby's Memorandum of 30th March 1841.

EXTRACT Political Letter from Bombay, dated 26 August (No. 52) 1843.

116. THE charges preferred, in 1836, by Mr. Erskine, when Political Agent in Kattywar, against Chotum Lall, were four in number:

1st. Having received a set of pooja materials from a person named Rowjee Bapoojee.

2d. Having received a gold chain, of the weight of 20 gudyanas (value not mentioned), from Otrum Gundy, ex-minister of the Porebunder State.

3d. Having received 540 rupees in 1823/24, and 500 rupees in 1827/28, as sookree, a present from the Politana State.

4th. Having received the sum of 300 rupees, as a bribe to conceal his knowledge of the parties concerned in a very serious and extensive robbery, committed, in January 1832, at the village of Moonjeepoor, in the Dussara talooka, in Katteewar.

117. On a perusal of the evidence produced in support of the first of the above charges, the Government

LETTER, dated 22 March (No. 7) 1842.

Para. 6. The Court allude to the case of Chotum Lall, formerly native agent to the Katteewar Political Agency, who was, in 1837, dismissed from that situation, in consequence o strong suspicions of his having participated in the extensive system of bribery discovered, in 1836, to have ex sted among the native servants of that agency, and of his having, in 1838, on a re-investigation, by Mr. Giberne, of the fourth charge, been acquitted of that charge, which induced that individual to solicit that a re-investigation might be made into his other imputed offences, but with which request this Government has not thought itself at liberty to comply, in consequence of the Court having intimated that they had a strong impression of Chotum Lall's guilt, and directed that he should hereafter be employed by Government in no other than a subordinate capacity.

Para. 7. With reference to this determination, the Court remark, that it was quite within the authority of Government to order a new investigation, without reference to them, in a case which they had expressly stated to be only one of strong presumption, and not positive proof; and the grounds the Court now have for believing that Chotum Lall has been calumniated in at least one of the cases in which Mr. Erskine considered him guilty, give him, they observe, a claim to be allowed to prove that a similar error was committed by that gentleman in the other three cases. Should the result be favourable to Chotum Lall, the Court authorise that individual being allowed to retire on the usual pension (should he still wish to do so), or his being appointed to any vacant situation for which he may be duly qualified.

Para.

Para. 8. The Court observe, that Government permitted Chotum Lall to receive the salary of his situation in Kattywar for the period which elapsed between his suspension and his removal from the office of native agent, deducting from the amount the sums which had been paid to certain persons, in consideration "of the extra duty performed by them during Chotum Lall's suspension, and after his dismissal." As, however, Chotum Lall was not allowed the benefit of the salary which accrued after his dismissal, the sum paid to him ought not, the Court observe, to have been diminished by the remuneration granted to others for services performed after that period.

vernment of the late Sir Robert Grant was of opinion, that, although an unpleasant degree of suspicion existed against Chotum Lall, the charge was not established against him, and therefore acquitted Chotum Lall of this charge.

118. In reviewing the proceedings of Mr. Erskine, in regard to the second and third charges, the Government of Sir Robert Grant recorded its opinion, that, although strong suspicions of guilt attached to both of them, still that neither of them had been substiantated.

119. In regard to the fourth charge, various discrepancies existed in the evidence, and the Government of the day, on the ground that doubt could never be wholly excluded from a case in which reliance must be placed on native testimony, and that too the testimony of confessed delinquents, regarded this charge rather as one of vehement and scarcely conquerable suspicion against Chotum Lall than one of positive conviction.

120. As already reported to your Honourable Court, Government having in 1838 ascertained that Chotum Lall had not been present to defend himself when the fourth charge against him had been investigated by Mr. Erskine, resolved to give that individual a re-hearing upon that charge, and the result of this re-investigation, which was conducted by Mr. Giberne, then Judicial Commissioner for the Guzerat and the Concan, having produced a conviction on the minds of this Government that Chotum Lall was not guilty of having received the bribe imputed him (under the fourth charge), he was fully acquitted of that charge.

121. Under the views expressed by your Honourable Court in the 7th para. of your despatch now under acknowledgment, Captain Jacob, then in charge of the Political Agency at Rajkote, was, on the 30th July 1842, directed to investigate *de novo* the charges Nos. 2 and 3 * in the presence of Chotum Lall, and to allow that individual every fair opportunity of clearing himself from the suspicions which attached to him in regard to both of those charges.

122. Captain Jacob commenced a preliminary re-investigation into these charges on the 27th September 1842, and on the 4th February last, Mr. Malet, who had intermediately been appointed Political Agent in Kattywar, submitted to Government the proceedings which had been held before him on the preceding day in the presence of Chotum Lall, in a re-investigation on the first of the charges. In submitting the result of this investigation, Mr. Malet observed, "that there was not the slightest evidence to prove this charge against Chotum Lall, and that he had accordingly acquitted Chotum Lall of this charge."

123. We beg to report, that on a careful perusal of Mr. Malet's proceedings, we have become satisfied of the correctness of his finding, and we have therefore confirmed his acquittal of Chotum Lall upon this charge.

124. With a subsequent report, dated 9th March last, Mr. Malet submitted to Government his proceedings in a re-investigation of the remaining charge against Chotum Loll, and the result has been, as in the other charge, the acquittal of that individual. Mr. Malet's finding in this case, also, has appeared to us to be fully borne out by facts. We have already noticed in the 119th para. of this despatch, that the Government of Sir Robert Grant recorded its opinion in 1837, that this charge against Chotum Lall had not been sufficiently sifted, and decided that although great suspicion attached to that individual, his guilt in regard to this charge could not be considered as actually proved. We beg to state that we entirely concur in the inferences drawn up by Mr. Malet in his report upon this charge, and that we have confirmed his acquittal of Chotum Lall upon this charge also.

125. Your

* "2d. Having received a gold chain of the weight of 20 gudyanas (value not mentioned) from Otrum Gandy, ex-Minister of the Porebunder State. 3d. Having received 540 rupees in 1823-24, and 500 rupees in 1827-28, as sookree (a present) from the Palitana State."

125. Your Honourable Court having in the 7th para. of your despatch now acknowledged, directing a re-investigation of the charges against Chotum Lall, observed that, "should the result be favourable to Chotum Lall, he may be allowed to retire on the usual pension (should he still wish to do so), or he may be appointed to any vacant situation for which he is duly qualified;" we beg to report, that we have made an intimation to Chotum Lall, to the effect that he will be allowed to retire on whatever amount of pension he may have been entitled to, according to existing regulations, on the 11th November 1837, the date of the Government order, directing his dismissal, or that otherwise he will, on a vacancy, be appointed to any suitable situation for which he may be qualified. Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

126. The proceedings which may be adopted by this Government on the receipt of a reply from Chotum Lall to the above intimation, will hereafter be reported to your Honourable Court.

Extract, Para. 2 to 4, of a Letter from the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 27th March, No. 6 of 1844.

2. In conformity to our instructions, you have caused a re-investigation of two of the charges against the head native agent, Chotum Lall. The inquiry has been limited on this occasion to the second and third charges. On the fourth a re-investigation had been already held, to the complete exculpation of the accused; and on the first charge you considered that he was acquitted in 1837; but it ought to have been included in the renewed inquiry, since, on the original investigation, an unpleasant degree of suspicion was declared to exist against Chotum Lall, in respect of that charge, and no more than suspicion existed in regard to any of the charges. It was due to Chotum Lall to have the same opportunity of clearing himself from suspicion, which he has had in respect of the other imputations cast upon him.

3. The second and third charges, on being re-investigated by Mr. Malet, broke down as completely as the fourth had previously done. The testimony inculpatory of Chotum Lall appears to have been suborned by one Munguljee Roopsee, a person in Mr. Erskine's employment, and in whom that gentleman appears to have reposed most undue confidence; Munguljee was present before Mr. Malet, and had an opportunity of cross-examining the witnesses, but failed in shaking their testimony. We are surprised at your not informing us that some steps have been taken to bring this individual to justice for his misdeeds.

4. We approve your having offered to Chotum Lall the option of re-employment, or a pension, each of them on a scale suitable to his former rank.

Political Department.—No. 28 of 1844.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable East India Company, London.

Honourable Sirs,

In the 116th to 126th paras. of our despatch, dated the 26th August, No. 52 of 1843, we submitted to your Honourable Court the proceedings which had been adopted by Mr. Malet, the Political Agent in Kattywar, in February and March 1843, in the re-investigation which, under the authority communicated to this Government in your Honourable Court's despatch, dated the 22d March 1842, he had been directed to institute into charges Nos. 2 and 3 of the four charges of bribery and corruption, preferred in 1836 by the late Mr. Erskine, when Political Agent in that province, against his head native agent, Chotum Lall Bappabhoy, who, subsequent to the investigation conducted by Mr. Erskine, was acquitted of charges Nos. 1 and 4. Kattywar.

2. In the same despatch, we stated that this re-investigation having proved favourable to Chotum Lall, we had, under the authority contained in the

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

extract quoted in the margin *, from your Honourable Court's despatch above alluded to, informed Chotum Lall, on the 10th July last, that we had no objection to allow him to retire should he desire to do so, on the amount of pension to which, according to existing regulations, he was entitled for his services up to the 11th November 1837, the date of the order issued by the Government of Sir Robert Grant, directing his dismissal from his situation, but that, should he prefer it, Government would confer on him, on a vacancy, any suitable situation for the duties of which he might be qualified.

* *See* below.

3. In reply to the above intimation, Chotum Lall, on the 16th August 1843, submitted a petition to Government, in which he preferred the following requests:—

1st. That he might be considered as having been in the employment of Government, from the date of his dismissal in November 1837, up to the date of his petition.†

† August 1843.

2d. That he might be restored to the situation of head native agent to the Kattywar Political Agency.

3d. That until re-instated in the above situation, or employed in any other situation of higher trust, in "that part of Guzerat," compensation might be granted to him.

4th. That the pension assigned to him, should he wish to retire from the service of Government, after being reinstated in his former situation, or appointed to one of higher trust, might be calculated on the principle that his services had been uninterruptedly continued up to August 1843, and not be considered to have ceased in November 1837, the period of his dismissal from the service of Government.

5th. That a situation might be conferred upon his son, either at Ahmedabad, Baroda, or in Kattywar.

4. In reply, Chotum Lall was informed, on the 20th October last, that we were precluded from complying with his application to be reinstated in his former situation in Kattywar, and that we were also unable to comply with his request to be permitted to draw in arrears the salary of Head Native Agent at Rajkote (300 rupees per mensem), from the date of his dismissal in November 1837 up to August 1843.

5. Chotum Lall was at the same time informed, that his services could only be reckoned up to the 11th November 1837, the date of the Government order directing his dismissal; and that should he wish to be pensioned, instead of being provided with another situation on a suitable vacancy occurring, he would be pensioned, as he had already been informed, upon the amount to which he might have been entitled on that date, according to the then existing regulations.

6. Chotum Lall was further informed, that his request that a situation might be conferred on his son, should be preferred to the local authorities, and not to Government.

7. In reply, Chotum Lall presented a further petition to Government, dated the 14th December last, in which he reiterated his request that he might either be restored to his former situation in Kattywar, or that he might be appointed "to an office of higher rank," and that he might be permitted to draw in arrears, from the year 1837, up to the date of his petition,‡ the full salary of Native Agent in Kattywar; and that in the event of these requests being refused, that in granting him a pension, Government would include in the period of his services the time intervening between the 11th November 1837, the date of his dismissal, and December 1843.

December 1843.

8. On receipt of this petition, our Honourable President requested that the Honourable Mr. Anderson, then a member of this Government, would state his

* "Should the result be favourable to Chotum Lall, he may be allowed to retire on the usual pension (should he still wish to do so), or he may be appointed to any vacant situation for which he is duly qualified."

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

his opinion whether any of the requests preferred by Chotum Lall could be acceded to. With reference to this call, the Honourable Mr. Anderson recorded a Minute, in which he observed, that he was of opinion that the previous decision of Government ought not to be disturbed, but that, as it appeared to him that Chotum Lall had been harshly dealt with, in reference to the proceedings which had been adopted against him by Mr. Erskine, he would suggest, that a recommendation should be made by this Government to your Honourable Court in favour of granting to Chotum Lall a larger pension than the amount to which he is entitled by the provisions of the Pension Rules in force under this Presidency. From the report of the Civil Auditor, dated the 10th instant, copy of which forms Enclosure No. 11 to this despatch, your Honourable Court will observe that Chotum Lall had, up to the date of his dismissal in November 1837, served Government for a period of 25 years,* with the exception of 16 days, and that according to the provisions of Clause 1, Section 5, of the Pension Rules quoted in the margin†, which came into operation on the 8th September 1835, Chotum Lall would have been entitled, on the 11 November 1837, had he then been permitted to retire from the service of Government, to a pension of 100 sicca, or Company's rupees 93. 1. 10. per mensem, being one-third of his salary, calculated on the average of the last five years of his servitude.

* In the Kaira Collectorate, Y. 5 M. 0 D. 0
In the Ahmedabad ditto 2 2 0
In Kattywar - - 17 9 14
Total - - 24 11 14

9. On the 22d January last, our Honourable President recorded a Minute, in which his Honour stated that he concurred in the view taken of this subject by the Honourable Mr. Anderson, and at the same time proposed, that a recommendation should be made to your Honourable Court of granting to Chotum Lall, for the special reasons mentioned by Mr. Anderson, a pension of 200 sicca rupees per mensem, in lieu of the pension of 100 (sicca) rupees, to which, as above stated, this person is entitled by the Pension Regulations, for his services up to the 11th November 1837. This suggestion having been concurred in by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and the other members of this Government, we beg to recommend it to the favourable consideration of your Honourable Court.

10. We also beg to be favoured with the instructions of your Honourable Court in regard to the date from which payment of the pension of Chotum Lall is to commence, namely, whether it should commence from the year 1837, when he ceased to draw any salary from Government, or from the 9th March 1843, the date on which Mr. Malet, the Political Agent, submitted to Government the final report of his re-investigation into the charges against Chotum Lall; the result of which has, as stated in a previous part of this despatch, been the acquittal of that person on all the charges which were preferred against him by the late Mr. Erskine.

11. Pending the decision of your Honourable Court upon the above points, we have permitted Chotum Lall to draw the pension (100 sicca rupees) to which he was entitled by the Pension Rules, on the 11th November 1837, and we have directed that the first payment commence from the 9th March 1843, the date on which Mr. Malet submitted his final report to Government.

We have, &c.
(signed) *Geo. Arthur.*
J. H. Crawford.
Bombay Castle, 27 April 1844. *L. R. Reid.*

Extract Political Letter to Bombay, dated 4 December (No. 36) 1844.

14. Chotum Lall, formerly native agent to the Kattywar Agency, in consequence of having cleared himself from the suspicions which had led to his dismissal, has petitioned your Government to be restored to his former office, or

* "If the period during which the individual may have been actually employed in the public service shall be more than 20 years, but less than 30 years, the amount of the pension shall not exceed one-third of the monthly salary or authorised official allowances of such individual on an average of five years previously to the date of the application for such pension."

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

or appointed to one of a higher grade, or that, if pensioned, he may, in computing the amount of pension due to him, be considered to have been uninterruptedly in the service of Government up to the time of his application.

15. You have not thought yourselves warranted in doing more for Chotum Lall than to grant him the pension to which he would have been entitled at the date of his dismissal in November 1837, namely, one-third of his salary, or 100 sicca rupees per month. You, however, recommend to us that this amount should be increased to 200 rupees, leaving also to us the question, whether arrears should be granted from his dismissal in 1837, or only from March 1843, when the Political Agent submitted the final report acquitting him of the charges.

16. If Chotum Lall prefers to retire on a pension, we consent to its being fixed at the amount recommended by you (200 Ahmedabad rupees per month), and we think it but just that this should commence from the date when he ceased to draw any allowance from Government.

17. Since, however, Chotum Lall has cleared his character from the charges brought against him, previously to which he had always been considered an efficient and valuable public servant, and since he is not, so far as we are informed, disqualified by age or infirmity from further service, it would be preferable, instead of granting him a pension, to re-employ him in some situation corresponding in rank to that which he formerly held.

18. Should you be of opinion that this is practicable and desirable, we authorise you to continue his present allowance of 100 rupees per month until a suitable vacancy may present itself; to grant him the same allowance in arrears from the time of his dismissal; and to inform him, that in the event of his being hereafter admitted to a pension, the time of his unmerited exclusion from public employment will be counted as part of his service.

Extract Political Letter from Bombay, dated 12 November (No. 124) 1845.

Letter to, No. 6, dated the 27th March 1844.

Paras. 2 and 3. The Court allude to the proceedings adopted by this Government, consequent on the instructions contained in their letter dated the 22d March, No. 7 of 1842, in the case of Chotum Lall, the late native agent of the Kattywar Political Agency, and observe, that, on the re-investigation by Mr. Malet, the second and third charges against Chotum Lall broke down as completely as the fourth had previously done. The Court remark, that the evidence exculpatory of Chotum Lall appears to have been suborned by a person named Munguljee Roopsee, in the employ of the late Mr. Erskine, formerly Political Agent in Kattywar, and in whom that gentleman appears to have placed most undue confidence. The Court observe, that this individual was present before Mr. Malet when the charges against Chotum Lall were re-investigated, and had an opportunity of cross-examining the witnesses, but failed in shaking their testimony, and they express surprise that no steps appear to have been taken for bringing Munguljee to justice for his misdeeds.

3. In reply to these paras., we beg to forward copy of a letter from Mr. Malet, Political Agent in Katteewar, dated the 4th July 1844,* stating that Munguljee Roopsee was dismissed from his situation in February 1838, and has not, since that period, been employed in any capacity under Government.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 28 March 1838.

No. 1250.

From *James Erskine*, Esq., Political Agent at Katteewar, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

1. With reference to the Government letter authorising the dismissal of the late native agent on this establishment, Chotum Laul Bapabhoye, I have the honour to request the instructions of the Right honourable the Governor in Council as to the disposal of his pay for the period he remained under suspension, and since his discharge, viz., from the 27th July 1836 up to this date, at the rate of rupees (300) three hundred per mensem, amounting to *Rs.* 5,148. 6. 2.

2. I beg, at the same time, to bring to the notice of Government the claims of Moonshee Lootf Alli Khan and Metha Bugwanlaul to a portion of this sum. The

* Pol. Cons. 1844; 26th June, No. 3721; 31st July, No. 4420 and 4421.

The former was intended to fill the appointment in Babriawar recommended by my predecessor in consequence of the collision between the Loonaghur and Jaffrabad authorities, reported in his despatch of 21st October 1835; but since Chotum Laul's suspension, I was obliged to detain and employ him on the duties usually performed by that person, no other being available for the same. He has continued, therefore, to act for Chotum Laul up to the 31st October last, and I trust that Government will be pleased to sanction the payment to him of one-half of the salary for the period in question.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

3. As regards Bugwanlaul, I beg to remind Government of the application of Captain Lang in his favour in the 5th para. of his letter of 22d March last, and to recommend for the sanction of the Right honourable the Governor in Council the payment to him of the remuneration therein mentioned, viz., (500) five hundred rupees, for the period of Loolf Alli Khawn's absence at the Presidency on private affairs, viz., from the 2d December 1836 to the 20th March 1837.

I have, &c.
(signed) *James Erskine*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar, Political Agent's Office,
Rajcote, 31 December 1837.

No. 521 of 1838.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to the Political Agent in Katteewar. No. 1251.

Sir,

1. I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 31st December last, soliciting the instructions of Government as to the disposal of Chotum Laul Bapabhoye's pay for the period he remained under suspension, and noticing the claims of Moonshee Loolf Ali Khan and Metha Bugwanlaul to a portion thereof.

2. In reply, I am instructed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to inform you that Government cannot decide on the claims of Loolf Alli until the suspicions attached to that person's conduct in the loan transaction at Limree, reported in your letter of the 14th January last, have been satisfactorily cleared up; and that before deciding on the disposal of Chotumlal's pay, Government will await your reply to that person's appeal referred to you with my letter of the 10th instant, No. 448.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 23 March 1838.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 14 March 1838.

TRANSLATION of a Petition from *Chotumlall Bappabhaee*, Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council; dated and received 17 January 1838. No. 1068.

I HAVE received a letter from James Erskine, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar, dated 2 December 1837, copy* of which I beg to send herewith. It is therein stated, that an answer, dated 11 November, has been received from the Government of Bombay regarding my case, which contains the following decisions:—

* This has been received.

1st. That there are strong suspicions of my having received from Raojee Bappoojee vessels used in worship, but that the fact is not substantiated by evidence or proofs. In regard to this I beg to submit, that without any one complaining against me, Raojee Decannee, one of the conspirators against me, got up a false charge, and preferred to the saheb (Political Agent) a yad regarding the above vessels; and the saheb, having sent for me on the 26th July 1836, at nine o'clock in the night, showed it to me, and in answer to his question, I said that the statement, that the vessels were given in nuzzerrana, was totally unfounded, but that they had been sold to me; that when I asked for the price, he (Raojee) said that the list was left at Amreily, that he would order it from that place, and then take the

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

money from me accordingly; that, a delay having taken place, I asked him several times for the list of prices, when he promised to get it; that afterwards I sent Mehta Purbhasunkur Gowreeshunkur to demand the list, when also he (Raojee) replied, that it was not received; that, on this, I sent a second time Mehta Rughooputroy and Mehta Purbhashunkur, who were told that he had written by post to his brother at Baroda to forward the list, which would arrive in a short time; that afterwards I sent the above Mehta a third time, when he was informed that the list had not arrived, and that therefore he (Raojee) would send his modee, in whose presence the vessels might be weighed, and the price paid; that they were accordingly weighed at the shop of Shett Vukhutchund Khooshalchund, and were found 171 rupees in weight, the value of which coming (by calculation) to 200 rupees, which I offered to pay, when the modee said that he would ask permission, and then receive it. He accordingly went to consult (his master), and returned with a message, that the value was 265½ rupees; that I thereupon told him, that if any difference existed, the list might be brought, and compared (with the articles), but that this had not been done, and that the money remaining unpaid, in consequence of his own fault, and not from any objection on my part; that at this stage of the business he (Raojee) preferred a yad, with the view of raising up a false accusation against me. On my suspension from office, he (Raojee), thinking that it could not be established against me, sent the modee to demand from me the amount value (of the articles) according to the weight. I can produce witnesses to establish this.

2d. That there are strong suspicions of my having received a gold chain from Gandhee Ootemchund of Porebunder, being 20 gudeeanas (ten tolas) in weight, but that it cannot be judicially proved against me. With respect to this, I have to observe, that on the 26th July, the saheb (Mr. Erskine) called for explanation from me as to the gold chain and the sum of 2,000 corees, alleged to be given to me by Gandhee Ootemchund, on his release from confinement; to which I replied, that nothing was given to me, that whoever might have given should prove it. On this, the saheb stated, that the wife of the Gandhee stated as above, but that there was no proof. To this I said, that if the allegation of that woman was true, she might substantiate it against me; she has, however, not proved it in any manner.

3d. That suspicions also exist of my having received two sums of money, viz., one of 450 rupees, and the other of 500, from the chief of Palleetana, but that it has not been fully established in consequence of the investigation not having been brought to a close. In regard to this, I beg to submit, that the son of the Raja of Paleetana, who had arrived at Rajcote, was instigated to set up false accusations against me by wicked people, who held out to him prospects of succeeding in his business; that on this subject the saheb, on the above-mentioned day, showed me in a book belonging to the Raja two items of 450 rupees and 500, and asked explanation from me. In reply to this, I stated, that nobody had at any time paid me anything; that the charge was groundless *in toto;* that if he (the Raja) had given me anything, he might come in and prove it; but this has not been done. But it is stated, that the investigation remains to be completed. I request that Government should complete the inquiry, and I shall be very glad.

4th. That it is a fact that I took some money from Patell Suvaee and Jaffer, of Dusara, but that it cannot be established by evidence or proofs. In respect to this, I beg to state, that no one has given me anything; but that if anything be alleged to have been given, let it be substantiated by proof what sum has been paid to me. On the 21st July, the Saheb asked me to know what meaaures were adopted, in consequence of the gang robbery of merchandize in Monjpoor, traced to the village of Panwey, of the Dusara talooka; to which I replied, that when a letter was received from the Political Department at Pahlunpoor on the subject, Captain Lang addressed a communication to Hurreebhee, who has at that time been in Dusara on attachment duty; that afterwards I obtained leave and proceeded to Ahmedabad on 15th of Fagun Sood (March) for a wedding, whence I returned in the month of Akhar (July) to my duty to Jaitpoore, where Captain Lang had repaired; and that the proceedings taken in this matter had all been through the instrumentality of Captain Lang, myself not having been allowed admission there. Subsequently the

Removal of Chotum Lall, native Agent in Kattywar.

the Political Agent sent for Jaffer, sepoy of Dusara, and questioned him as to whether he had seen, with his own eyes, Hurreebhaee giving to Chotumlall (petitioner) the sum of 300 rupees in Gondul, which he alleged to have given to the former for that purpose. Jaffer answered in the negative, and added, that I gave them to Hurreebhaee, and saw Hurreebhaee entering the rowtee of Chotumlall, but did not see him in the act of giving. Kolee Survaee was afterwards interrogated, and he said that he descried from a distance the heap of rupees placed by Hurrybhaee before me, Chotumlall. Explanation being then called from me, I stated that nobody had given me anything, and that the allegation was false. Hurreebhaee was then called, and required to explain the charge made by Jaffer of having given the sum of 300 rupees (to Chotumlall) through his instrumentality; he replied that nothing was given through his medium. He was further interrogated whether he knew anything regarding an agreement of paying the sum of 1,000 rupees, as alleged by Jaffer and Survaee. On this he mentioned the name of Mehta Umrootlall; but what the Saheb asked this person, and what answer he gave, I know not. Afterwards, the Political Agent told me that Jaffer brought to me the sum of 300 rupees at Rajcote, which I refused to receive, and required me to explain this; when I replied that no one had come to give me anything, and that the story was false. That when I returned from the wedding at Ahmedabad to Jaitpore, Jaffer had come to me, and expressed his intention to make an "ahere" (presents given in weddings and other occasions); to which I told him, in reply, that the wedding had not occurred at Jaitpore; that I would neither give nor take any presents. This I informed the Saheb (Political Agent), and he has consequently written me that when Survaee and Jaffer came to me, while Captain Lang was at Jaitpore, to give me some money, which I refused to take, I ought to have brought it to the notice of that gentleman, which, however, I did not do. In respect to this, I beg to observe, that when I returned from the wedding, Jaffer alone had come to me to express his intention to make an "ahere," but the statement that both Survaee and Jaffer had come is totally false; and as Jaffer's offer was not of bribery to effect any particular business, I did not think myself called upon to report it to the Saheb. The circumstances connected with the above "ahere" I have communicated to Mr. Erskine, but I never acknowledged an offer of any other present.

In this manner I gave answers to all the questions, and at four after midnight I was allowed leave to go. The next day I was suspended, and Hurreebhaee loaded with fetters, in consequence of his not having falsely taken my name. Jaffer and Survaee also, when first put into confinement on charges coming home to them, had not falsely taken my name; had they done so, I would have been instantly called to an account. After some days' imprisonment, however, they were taken from the gaol to the bungalow (of the Political Agent), and proceedings were carried on in secrecy, when after some days they were induced to give out false stories fabricated for the purpose. Mehta Hurreebhaee was, in like manner, desired by wicked slanderous persons to take my name, with an assurance of obtaining his release in that case. The case of the above gang robbery was tried by the Political Agent in the Criminal Court in July last, and on the termination of the proceedings Hurreebhaee was, for a day or two, prohibited the use of water supplied by Brahmins, and told to drink from pukhal (leather bag of water), in order that he might be induced to accuse me. Kolee Suwaee, the leader of the gang who plundered property of thousands of rupees, received pardon of his crime, for charging me falsely; and Jaffer, against whom a certain sum was proved, was likewise pardoned, and both of them have been released from confinement. This is publicly known. Let Government, therefore, reflect that, when amnesty is promised, why, these persons should refuse to give out false stories, dictated by "turkutee* people."

* Slanderers or fabricators of charges, &c.

With respect to the above four items of complaint, the list of vessels produced by Raojee, and the book of the chief of Paleetanna, were only shown to me, except which, the deposition, &c., connected with the Dusara affair, were not shown to me. If this was not a false accusation set up against me, why, the proceedings connected with matters in which I was concerned were hidden from me; such being the case, how am I to propose any questions I may find necessary? But the regulations of Government everywhere provide, that

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

whenever any charges are preferred against any individual, he should be allowed to be present when depositions are being taken against him, thereby allowing him an opportunity of putting any questions he may deem requisite, to refute such depositions, and then the proceedings should be transmitted to Government; but nothing like this has been done in the present instance, and the investigation has originated in malicious motives, and was conducted on *ex parte* statements. The sahib (Political Agent) may have written to Government, as he may have been misinformed by the turkutee people about him; but he is my "khawind" (master).

It is stated in the letter of 2d December, that I did not bring to Mr. Willoughby's notice the letter which Gandhee Shamjee Madhoujee, of Jonaghur, brought to me from the Nawab at Rajcote; with reference to this, I have to observe, that in this letter nothing substantial was stated; it only mentioned that a verbal communication would be made; but as the health of the saheb was impaired at that time, I intended to confront him (the Gandhee) with him, when he would find leisure; and told Shamjee not to return unless he had a personal meeting with the saheb; but he nevertheless returned; why, then, bring to the saheb's notice an incomplete story? I have informed this to Mr. Erskine.

I was suspended on the 27th July 1836, and 18 months have since elapsed, and now an answer has been received by me, in which it is stated that as suspicions exist against me regarding the matters above adverted to, I have been dismissed the service of Government. With the view of removing these suspicions, I have come here from Rajcote, and request in this petition that as I know not from what proofs or grounds suspicions are entertained against me, your Excellency in Council will be pleased to cause them to be explained to me, and if this information be afforded to me, I am willing to refute those suspicions. I have performed the services of Government for 26 years, with zeal and diligence, and during this time I have never been found in fault, and have not been concerned in any bad business. I have served under Messrs. Rowles, Robertson, Dunlop, Barnwall, Blane and Willoughby, and they are acquainted with my services; some certificates of good conduct are in my possession, and which I shall get from Ahmedabad where they are, and produce before Government.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

No. 1069. From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay, to the First Assistant in Charge of the Katteewar Agency, Rajcote.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to transmit, for any observations you may have to offer thereon, the accompanying translation of a petition from Chotumlall Bappabhaee, dated the 17th January last, complaining of his dismissal from employment, on suspicion of his having received bribes, and asserting his innocence of the charge preferred against him.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 10 March 1838.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 27 June 1838.

No. 2959. SUBSTANCE of a Petition from *Chotumlall Bappabhoy*, Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council; dated 24, received 15 May 1838.

I BEG to state, that I presented a petition to Government, dated 17 January last, against my dismissal on suspicions, and giving my answers to each of the charges preferred against me, &c.

In

In reply to which I was informed, under date the 29th of the same month, that my case was under consideration, and I would get an answer when the inquiry had been completed. Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

As it is now four or five months since I have given in the above petition, and stayed at Bombay, I now beg to request that Government will be pleased to communicate to me their decision in my case as early as possible.

(signed) *W. S. Boyd*,
Acting Secretary to Government.

From *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to the Political Agent in Katteewar. No. 2960.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to request that you will expedite your reply to Mr. Secretary Willoughby's letter of the 10th March last, forwarding, for any observations you may have to offer thereon, translation of a petition from Chotumlall Bappabhaee, complaining of his dismissal from employment on mere suspicion of his having received bribes.

I have, &c.
(signed) *L. R. Reid*,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 26 June 1838.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 28 November 1838.

PETITION from *Chotumlall Bappabhoy*, Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, and now in Bombay, to the Honourable *James Farish*, Esq., President and Governor in Council. No. 5787.

Humbly showeth,

THAT your petitioner received a letter from Mr. Erskine, Political Agent in Kattawar, dated the 2d December 1837, stating, that as suspicions existed against him, he had been dismissed from the service of Government.

That in consequence of this your petitioner arrived at Bombay, and presented to Government two petitions, dated respectively the 17th January and 24th May last, requesting to know on what evidence and documentary proof the suspicions above alluded to are grounded.

That if any evidence and documentary proof has been received by Government against your petitioner, no hesitation or delay should occur in showing the same to him; but still it has not been done, nor has a decisive answer been given to him, notwithstanding that he has stayed in Bombay for eight months.

That the charge urged against your petitioner is but a tissue of falsehood and fabrication; what kinds of depositions are given against him by the false witnesses is not shown to him, nor is he furnished with copies of them.

That with the exception of what was inquired of your petitioner on the night of the 26th July 1836 by Mr. Erskine, when no one was present but the inimical persons who falsely accused your petitioner, he was never called at the investigation, nor were the proceedings against him shown to him; neither any question propounded, as ought to have been done.

That when the Political Agent made his report to Government he did not inform him what cases had been laid to his charge, nor did that officer call upon him to refute the same. Such was the secrecy observed in the proceedings instituted against him.

That in the letter of 2d December Mr. Erskine states, that your petitioner received some money from Patel Sewayee and Jafferbhoy, and adds that the charge is true, but cannot be judicially proved. It is not stated what sum your petitioner has so received, and your petitioner is quite surprised how the

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

charge should be true, when an essential part of it, namely the amount, could not be known.

Sic. orig.

With respect to the offer made at Jaitpoor by Jaffer of where or present received in a marriage occasion, your petitioner has detailed his reply to that person in his petition, dated the 17th January last, and the case is as mentioned in that document; but if Mr. Erskine has given to Government a contrary version of the thing, he must be actuated by the representations of wicked persons in injuring your petitioner's character, and depriving him of the source of maintenance.

That your petitioner trusts, that should your Honourable Board be pleased to re-examine the case minutely, your Honourable Board will be satisfied that the accusations set up against him are totally unfounded, and are from beginning to end a piece of fabrication.

That your petitioner has served the Government with zeal and fidelity, applying his heart and soul to the duties entrusted to him. He is not concerned in any evil act; but malicious persons have, with a view to impair your petitioner's honest services, afforded misinformation to Mr. Erskine, and caused suspicions to be entertained by Government against your petitioner. To remove these suspicions your petitioner has arrived at Bombay. Should, however, Government refuse to show him the evidence, documentary proof, and depositions on which the suspicions are founded; should their copies be not furnished to him; should his case be not heard from beginning to end; should a proper investigation be not made,—it would not be worth while for him to continue in existence when his character has been impeached, and his fortune injured by evil-disposed persons.

Government are impartial in the distribution of justice, and act with unbiassed judgment. They are the protectors of the poor; your petitioner is an old servant of theirs. He therefore requests that, from a regard to justice, Government will be so gracious as to order your petitioner to be furnished with information touching the evidence, documentary proof, and depositions under which the suspicions may have been entertained, together with copies of the same, and to make a proper inquiry into the matter.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Bombay, 10 October 1838. (signed) *Chotumlall Bappabhoy.*

No. 5788. MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Board.

COPY to be sent to the Political Agent, who should long since have answered the reference made to him on the 26th June last.

His earliest attention to, and report upon, the subject, should be entered on with an expression of the surprise of Government at the delay. Chotumlal should be informed of the reference.

(signed) *J. Farish.*
G. W. Anderson.
J. A. Duylop.

12 October 1838.

No. 5789. MEMORANDUM by the Political Secretary.

THE Political Agent's report has been intermediately received, and is herewith circulated.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Secretary to Government.

27 October 1838.

From

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

From *James Erskine*, Esq., Political Agent at Kattywar, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

No. 5790.

Sir,

1. I HAVE the honour to submit, in obedience to the directions contained in your letters of the 10th March and 26th June last, my reply to the petition of Chotumlall Bappabhoy, late native agent of this establishment, complaining against Government for having dismissed him on mere suspicion of his conduct having been corrupt in the execution of his duties, and at the same time bringing charges against me for improper and partial behaviour in the investigation of several charges against him of bribery and corruption, into which it became my duty to inquire for the notice of the Honourable Board.

2. I beg to apologise to the Honourable the Governor in Council for having delayed till so late my reply to your reference, but when I have stated the cause of such delay I trust I shall not appear culpable in not having done so at an earlier period.

3. The causes of delay are as follows:

1st. The appeal of Chotumlall was connected so intimately with the reply of Government to my report on the cases of bribery in which he was accused of having been concerned, in which reply I was called upon to make further inquiries, and report on several points. I waited until I had it in my power to put Government in possession of such further information regarding the whole case; one I have from the first considered of most vital importance to this province, and the character of the British Government, to enable the Honourable Board to decide the question finally on full and satisfactory grounds. 2d. As the petition contained an appeal against the decision of the Right honourable the Governor in Council himself, a clear decision arrived at after a patient and impartial consideration of the case, during the period of 13 months (my report having gone in on the 12th October 1836, and the reply of Government being dated the 11th November 1837), and as that decision of Government was far more favourable to the petitioner than I had anticipated, there appeared no reason to me to give an incomplete reply at an earlier period, especially as, instead of any new circumstances favourable to his case having come to my knowledge since the receipt of your letter, several new cases of corruption and misconduct have been brought before me. 3d. As I had strong reason to suspect, not long after the receipt of your letter forwarding the petition, that Chotumlall was connected with the libel against my character, which was brought to the notice of Government in my letter to your address of the 26th August last, I thought it preferable to finish that inquiry before submitting my remarks on the petition to the Honourable Board.

4. I now proceed to remark on some of the assertions brought forward by Chotumlall against myself in the prosecution of my duty. The petition commences by stating, "That without any one complaining against me," &c. To this I answer, that at that time I had several complaints against him, and the individual himself who first complained was the accused in the first charge. The assertion that I sent for him at nine o'clock at night may or may not be true, as I am not able to remember the precise hour. Every person connected with my office can satisfy the Honourable the Governor in Council, that at that period I rarely was able to lay my head on my pillow till two or three o'clock in the morning, and it was natural that I should defer such cases as I could, late in the evening, attend to, to that time, when other business occupied the forenoon. Chotumlall states he can produce witnesses to establish that Rowjee the man from whom he had taken the valuables, sent a person subsequently to him to recover the value of the materials. I am myself partly a witness to this, as I was applied to by the man Rowjee to know, after the investigation was concluded, in the midst of which Chotumlall had sent his son-in-law to offer the price of them, whether he could not recover his money, as he was badly off and I told him that I saw no objection to his taking what was his due. I have no observation to make on the next charge, as alluded to by Chotumlall in his petition. The charge of the Dussara robbers giving him a bribe, is one which has also been adverted to above, and I see no new feature brought into view in this case. The paragraph in the petitioner's appeal, commencing "With re-

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

spect," near the end, but not numbered, is one in which great reason and sense are displayed, but not one moment's regard to veracity. I can assure the Honourable Board that every opportunity was given to the petitioner to cross-question his accusers before myself, as well as to send for any witnesses he might wish on every individual instance in his own behalf. If the petitioner requires a public trial, against which the Right honourable the Governor in Council decided, in the reply to the Dussara case of robbery, I see no insurmountable objection to it, but I can hardly perceive why Government should reverse their own decision, founded as it is in a great measure on the suspicious conduct of the petitioner in the Junagur case; and on another occasion, referred to by himself, when he failed to report an attempt to bribe him, even at Jaitpoor, by persons concerned in the Dussara robbery, which I still, though with deep deference, think to have been by far too lenient to this great offender.

5. This now brings me to the last part of my report on the appeal of Chotumlall; viz., my suggestion as to how it is to be disposed of. I beg distinctly to state, that I have the most perfect conviction that this petitioner is the person who authorised and concocted the libel on me (knowing it to be false), the proceedings of which I sent to Government under date the 26th August last; and that under that conviction, although there were some very serious charges of vile corruption standing against him in this office, I should beg the indulgence of Government not to be a party to their investigation. I shall be most careful in laying the charges, with such proofs as I can procure towards their substantiation, before any tribunal Government shall be pleased to appoint, than whom I cannot suggest a fitter than the Honourable Mr. Sutherland, whose criminal jurisdiction as Political Commissioner extends to this province, and whose intimate knowledge of the regulations of Government and the best forms of legal process would enable him, as it points him out as the most qualified for the important duty. I beg, however, here to add, that since Chotumlall has been dismissed in consequence of strong suspicions of misconduct entertained against him, and not because of any evidence by which he was judicially proved guilty, I do not perceive in what way a trial would avail him. The difficulty of proving any charge judicially is owing to the astute mode in which he was accustomed to take presents; when not at office, he was always to be found, particularly at night, sitting alone in an inner apartment, performing pooja. A sepoy sat at the outer door to prevent the entrance of visitors till he had obtained the permission of his master; if two or more persons called together, they were invariably refused admittance; ingress was permitted to single individuals only. A person wishing to give Chotumlall a present was thus prevented from doing so in the presence of a third party; he was either to part with his money in a way which put it completely out of his power afterwards to reclaim it, or suffer all the imaginary evils resulting from his own folly in failing to propitiate the good-will of the head native agent.

6. I shall now proceed to make a few observations on the letter of Government in reply to my report on Chotumlall's case, and in doing so, as it is neither my inclination or province to criticise the decision of the Honourable Board, I shall make these remarks as concisely as possible, and submit them with the greatest deference and respect, with a view chiefly of quoting the sentiments of Government in contrast with my own in support of my present reply to Chotumlall's appeal. On the first charge against this individual, I have no further observation to offer, except that as the Right honourable the Governor in Council considered himself as pronouncing a judicial opinion, his decision on that charge was in perfect accordance with mine, viz., that there existed great grounds for suspicion, but no direct proof. With regard to the second charge against Chotumlall, I beg to state, 1st. That I greatly fear that the Right honourable the Governor in Council, at the period of the decision pronounced, was not sufficiently aware of the extensive and insidious system of corruption which has been so long carried on in this province with impunity, and that had he been fully informed of such, he would have been sure that no case involving such interests as those of Otum Gandy, a minister to one of the first chiefs in the country, ever was settled without the expenditure of money towards the head native agent on the part of those who profited by the decision of the British authority, whose prime adviser he was considered. 2d. As to the probable error

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

error into which I am supposed to have fallen concerning the pecuniary resources of Otum Grandy, I beg to state, I have since made minute inquiries from every party to whom I had access on the subject, both at Porebunder and elsewhere, and I see no reason to alter my former opinion. That person was first duffedar at Porebunder, an hereditary situation, which he enjoyed from his father and ancestors, from the years Sumvut 1877 to 1880 (A. D. 1820/21 to 1823/24); he was employed as head minister of the Porebunder state. At the expiration of that period he was mistrusted by Rana Kheemajee and confined, when he was ordered to resign the karbar, and pay a fine of 170,000 corees; he sold all his effects to do this. In F. 1884 (1827/28) he was again employed as head minister or Karbarree, and remained so for three years. In June 1887 (1830/31) he was again placed in restraint by Kana Kheemajee, and his release was effected by Mr. Willoughby in about the middle of November of that year (1831). On his departure from Porebunder he went to reside at Kotiana, where he built a house of the value of about 5,000 corees, in which to place his wife, children, and the wreck of his fortune. His wife, after his decease, might have been worth in jewels and clothes to the value of a few thousand corees, but the slender means of the family are well known throughout this part of the country. The wealth alluded to in your letter as having been permitted to leave Porebunder, consisted, as every one at Porebunder believe, of the common household utensils, with a few thousand corees, in ready cash, and the ornaments possessed by every woman of any consideration in the country. I have not been able to hear from any one person that Otum Gandy was ever a rich man, or when he left Porebunder; but rather, considering his position, as a man in straitened circumstances, and he had uniformly the character for liberality. On the third charge, I have only to say, that it is as notorious in the province, and indeed throughout all Guzerat, that Chotumlall not only banked with Wukutchund Kooshalchund, as it is known in London that Sir Coutts's brother and Sir Edmund Antrobus are the principal partners in the house of Coutts & Co. It is, besides, notorious that Chotumlall is a wealthy man, and possessed of property to the extent of several lacks of rupees, obtained since his arrival in this province in the beginning of 1820. Nothing, however, can be judicially proved; therefore I have it only in my power to state these circumstances for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council. With respect to the fourth charge, since I myself have been present in a solemn court, before which I heard that charge clearly proved by persons on their oath, forming a chain of concurrent testimony, I shall say no more. The accused was certainly not present to defend himself; but the line of conduct he has invariably pursued has been to deny all receipts of such a nature *in toto*. Before I dismiss this part of the subject, I may be permitted to make two remarks: 1st. The Right honourable the Governor in Council has decided on the charges in a judicial point of view; his strict justice and impartiality demanded that. But I brought forward these cases, cases decided with great difficulty, as I have often stated, and I have also given the reasons for such difficulty (viz., the impression put about over the country that corruption was patronised by the British officers), not as the foundation for a criminal prosecution, but as doing my duty in my own branch of the service to inform Government that a class of people to whom they paid very large stipends were in the habit of abusing their confidence and maligning the characters of some of the most meritorious of their servants. The very circumstance of the great suspicions attached in the course of these charges to Chotumlall, independent of my intense conviction (the intense conviction of a perfectly disinterested man, or rather of a man somewhat interested in his favour,) of his extreme guilt, would of course warrant Government to remove him from a most responsible situation in the political branch of the service, one in which Government allows, most justly, that greater temptations are offered than in any other line, and where integrity and upright conduct is most especially requisite, any strong suspicion of want of integrity is of itself disqualification; that the Government therefore can entertain any idea of altering their decision on the petitioner's case, I conceive to be impossible. 2d. The Right honourable the Governor in Council has been pleased to remark, that the above-named circumstances (alluding to my remarks on the inducement Otum Gandy had to give the native agent any recompense, and my statement of the poverty of Otum Gandy's family) "are important, because they in some degree confirm the impression

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

which he thinks a dispassionate perusal of my reports will suggest, that in my zeal to purify my establishment, and in my conviction of the guilt of the accused, I exhibited a warmth scarce suited to the judicial character, and was thus led to construe to their disadvantage circumstances which may fairly bear a different interpretation." That the circumstances elicited before me in the investigation in question ever could have borne an opposite construction to that which I put upon them, and which is inferred by the above expression, I greatly regret, but with respect to my warmth against the members of the native establishment, I do not hesitate, as I am by no means ashamed to state that it proceeded from intense conviction of their criminality, brought on, and confirmed in a great degree, by the guilty conduct of Hurreebhoy Bhagylall and Gopalrye Mahdoorye, both holding responsible situations on this establishment, and nearly connected with the petitioner by birth and marriage, and who have been publicly tried, found guilty, and sentenced. As for any partial or sinister views of which Chotumlall accuses me, I beg distinctly to disavow them. I perceived an evil state of things; I was enabled after much labour to discover the cause of it, and I did my utmost to oppose and destroy it. I saw corruption was rife in the province; I discovered that the cause of it was, that the names of the British functionaries were made use of for the perpetuation of it; and I prosecuted the criminals with all the energy I possessed. If my conduct has been erroneous, or injurious to the interests of Government, I am open to correction by the Honourable Board.

7. I should feel greatly obliged for an early reply to this, for several reasons: 1st. The office establishment can hardly transact the business required of them with their present capabilities, and therefore it is so expedient to arrange it. 2d. The services of my head clerk and accountant, Mr. Gillies, are now divided into three most important departments,--Accounts, English correspondence, and the supervision of native ditto; and the consequence is, he is hardly able to master it all. 3d. The impression throughout the country cannot fail of being mischievous at seeing things carried on in such a manner as that three or four of the most leading native assistants are suspended from their duties.

8. When I receive the final decision of the Honourable Board, I shall then submit my plan for the revision of the establishment, as also for compensation to those individuals who, since the suspension of the members of the establishment, have devoted their time, trouble, and ability to the public service.

I have, &c.

Kattewar, Political Agent's Office,
Camp Veraloul, 28 September 1838.

(signed) *J. Erskine*,
Political Agent.

No. 5791.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by Mr. *Dunlop*.

1. MR. ERSKINE's Report does not add anything to the information already before Government, on the case of Chotumlall; on the fourth charge he stated that Chotumlall was not present to defend himself.

2. On this charge, therefore, he has claim to a re-hearing. The result, however, if favourable to him, cannot entitle Chotumlall to restoration of his office under the Political Agent; and the fullest proof of such corruption as is alleged against him could only, under the present state of the law, lead to the confirmation of his dismissal.

3. Chotumlall has now been out of office for several months, and cannot exercise that influence, which would suppress the evidence in all those many cases of delinquency, in which Mr. Erskine entertains an "intense conviction" that he has been engaged.

4. I am anxious to give Chotumlall the opportunity of defending himself on the charge above mentioned, and Mr. Erskine should have the opportunity of bringing against him other charges, if he has any specific ones which he can establish. The result of this inquiry, though it would not lead to the restoration of Chotumlall, might, if entirely favourable, open more clearly the way of his admission to employment in some other department, or if unfavourable, would

would place him in a more unequivocal position, and substitute proof for strong suspicion as the ground of his exclusion from the Political Agent's office and the public service. Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

5. To conduct such inquiry, it is undesirable again to employ Mr. Erskine. The Judicial Commissioner, Mr. Giberne, will in the course of his circuit go to Dholka and Gogo; I would therefore propose that he should visit Rajkote, for the purpose of inquiring into the charge mentioned as No. 4 in Mr. Erskine's letter of 28 September, and any other fresh charges which may have come to his knowledge, and he is prepared to prosecute.

6. Mr. Giberne should state the date when he can be at Rajcote for the purpose, and Chotumlall should be informed that he may be there in readiness to defend himself on the charge in question; and Mr. Erskine should be directed to be prepared with such fresh charges as he may have to bring, giving timely notice thereof to Chotumlall, that he may defend himself.

13 November 1838. (signed) *J. Farish.*
J. A. Dunlop.

Minute by the Honourable Mr. *Anderson*, subscribed to by the Board.

Mr. Giberne should be appointed to make the inquiry in question, so that it may not be deemed that he is acting or conducting the duty in his office of Judicial Commissioner. No. 5792.

(signed) *G. W. Anderson.*
J. A. Dunlop.
J. Farish.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay, to the Political Agent in Kattewar.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 28th September last, submitting your Report on the petitions of Chotumlall Bappabhoye, late native agent of the Rajcote agency, on the subject of his recent dismissal from public service, and requesting a re-investigation of his case. No. 5793.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you, that your present report does not afford any further information relative to the case of this individual, than that previously in the possession of Government.

3. As, however, it is stated by you that Chotumlall was not present to defend himself when the fourth charge against him was investigated, Government thinks that he has a claim to a rehearing on this charge.

4. Chotumlall having now been out of office for several months, he cannot exercise that influence which could suppress the evidence in all those many cases of delinquency in which you "entertain an intense conviction" that he has been engaged.

5. The Governor in Council is anxious to afford Chotumlall the opportunity of defending himself on the above-mentioned charge, and to give you also an opportunity to bring against him other charges, if you have any specific ones which you consider you can establish. The result of this inquiry, though it may not lead to the restoration of Chotumlall in his late office, might, if entirely favourable, open more clearly the way of his admission to employment in some other department, or if unfavourable, would place him in a more unequivocal position, and substitute proof for strong suspicion, as the grounds of his exclusion from your establishment and from the public service.

6. The Governor in Council has resolved to confide the further inquiry into Chotumlall's conduct to Mr. Giberne, the Acting Judicial Commissioner for Guzerat, in the course of his approaching circuit to Goolka and Gogo, and that gentleman has accordingly been instructed to visit Rajcote, for the purpose of inquirng (but not in his character of Judicial Commissioner), into the charge

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

No. 4, as well as into any other fresh charges which may have come to your knowledge, and which you may be prepared to prosecute.

7. Mr. Giberne will be requested to report to Government (informing you of the same) the date on which he will be able to be at Rajcote for the purpose of conducting this inquiry, that Chotumlall may be directed to be there in time, and in readiness to defend himself on the charge in question; and you are requested to be there, prepared with any fresh charges which you may have to bring forward against that individual, giving him immediate notice thereof, that he may be prepared to defend himself.

8. For the purpose of aiding Mr. Giberne in this inquiry, you are requested to give that officer, on his arrival at Rajcote, free access to the records in your office connected with the case of Chotumlall.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle,
25 November 1838.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Secretary to Government.

No. 5794.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *G. Giberne*, Esq., Acting Judicial Commissioner for Guzerat and Konkan.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you copies of the documents noted in the margin*, regarding the dismissal from the public service of Chotumlall Bappabhoye, late native agent of the Rajcote agency, for corrupt conduct in the performance of his duties, and to inform you that it now appears from the Report of Mr. Erskine, the Political Agent in Kattewar, dated the 28th September last, this individual was not present when the fourth charge against him was investigated; Government therefore considers that he is entitled to a rehearing on the charge in question.

* *See* below.

2. The Governor in Council has therefore been pleased to appoint you to re-investigate the charge above mentioned, and to inquire into any other fresh charges which may be brought forward against Chotumlall by Mr. Erskine.

3. I am desired to request that you will accordingly, in the course of your approaching circuit to Dhoolka and Gogo, visit Rajcote, for the purpose of instituting an inquiry (but not in your character of Judicial Commissioner) into the charge or charges above alluded to, reporting the result to Government.

4. Mr. Erskine has been instructed to give you free access to the records of his office connected with Chotumlall's case.

5. In conclusion, I am instructed to request that you will, as early as convenient, report to Government (informing Mr. Erskine of the same) the date on which you will be able to be at Rajcote, that Chotumlall may be directed to be there in time, and in readiness to defend himself on the charge No. 4, and to inform you that that officer has been desired to be there, prepared with any fresh charges which he may have to bring forward against that individual, giving him timely notice thereof, that he may be prepared to defend himself.

I have, &c.,

Bombay Castle,
25 November 1838.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Secretary to Government.

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* 1. Petition from Chotumlall, dated 17 January 1838.
2. To the Political Agent in Katteewar, dated 10 March.
3. Petition from Chotumlall, dated 25 May 1838.
4. To the Political Agent in Kattewar, dated 26 June.
5. Petition from Chotumlall, dated 10 October 1838.
6. From the Political Agent in Katteewar, dated 28 September 1838.
7. To the Political Agent in Kattewar, dated 25 November 1838.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *Chotumlall Bappa Bhyee*, late Native Agent of the Rajcote Agency.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

No. 5795.

In reply to your petition, dated the 10th ultimo, regarding your recent dismissal from the public service, and praying that your conduct may be re-investigated, I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to signify to you, that as it appears that when the 4th charge against you was gone into, you were not present to defend yourself, Mr. Giberne, the Acting Judicial Commissioner for Guzerat, has been instructed in the course of his approaching circuit to Doolka and Gogo, to visit Rajkote, for the purpose of re-investigating the charge in question.

2. You will shortly be informed of the date when Mr. Giberne will be able to be at Rajkote, in order that you may be there in time, and in readiness to defend yourself.

By order, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
25 November 1838.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 16 January 1839.

From *G. Giberne*, Esq., Officiating Judicial Commissioner, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

No. 199.

Sir,

In reference to your communication of the 25th ultimo, directing me to visit Rajcote for the purpose of instituting an inquiry into certain charges which may be brought against Chotum Lall by Mr. Erskine, and directing me to report to Government the date on which I shall be able to be there, I have the honour to state, for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council, that I should hope to be at Rajcote about the 20th of February, and I would respectfully beg that instructions may be issued to the Political Agent to cause the attendance of the parties, and ensure the complete preparation of the case on or before the above date.

Should any unforeseen duties cause any delay in my expected movements, I shall, of course, communicate the same to the Political Agent.

I would further beg to suggest that I may be authorised, under Act No. VI. of 1838, to administer the usual oath to the witnesses who may be brought before me on the inquiry directed by your letter under reply.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. Giberne*,
Officiating Judicial Commissioner.

On Circuit, Tannah, 10 December 1838.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to the Political Agent in Kattewar.

No. 200.

Sir,

With reference to my letter, dated the 25th November last, No. 2292, I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you copy of a communication from the officiating Judicial Commissioner for Guzerat, dated the 10th ultimo, and to request that you will be pleased to hold everything in readiness for Mr. Giberne to proceed with the investigation into the charges against Chotum Lall, alluded to in my letter above quoted, and to cause all parties concerned to be duly in attendance by the 20th proximo, the date fixed by that officer for commencing the inquiry in question.

2. Chotum Lall has been informed that he should be in readiness at Rajcote by the 20th proximo, to answer to such charges as may be preferred against him.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 10 January 1839.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to the Officiating Judicial Commissioner for Guzerat.

Sir,

No. 201. I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 10th ultimo, and to transmit, for your information, copy of my communication of this date to the Political Agent in Kattewar, directing that officer to hold everything in readiness by the 20th proximo, to enable you to proceed with the investigation in Chotum Lall's case on your arrival at Rajcote.

2. With reference to the suggestion contained in the last para. of your letter, the Governor in Council is pleased to authorise you, under Act No. VI. of 1838, to administer the usual oath to such witness as may be brought before you on the inquiry in question.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 10 January 1839.

No 202. From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to *Chotum Lall Bappoobhaee*, late Native Agent of the Rajcote Agency.

Sir,

WITH reference to the second para. of my letter, dated the 25th November last, I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to inform you that the 20th proximo is the date fixed for Mr. Giberne, the Acting Judicial Commissioner for Guzerat, to commence the investigation into your case at Rajcote, and you are accordingly required to be in readiness at that place by that date, to answer to such charges as may be preferred against you.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 10 January 1839.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 29 May 1839.

No. 2370. From *G. Giberne*, Esq., Officiating Judicial Commissioner, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir,

1. I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council, that in pursuance of the instructions contained in your letter of the 25th of November last, I proceeded to Rajkote for the purpose of re-investigating the charge against Chotum Lall, referred to in your letter, and to inquire into any other fresh charges which might be brought forward against Chotum Lall by Mr. Erskine.

2. I arrived here on the 19th ultimo, and regretted to find that the Political Agent was absent on duty, and that no instructions had been left with his assistant. I therefore immediately addressed Mr. Erskine on the subject; and his reply, dated the 24th ultimo, stated that he had no intention of bringing forward any other charge against Chotum Lall but the one directed by Government, viz., his having accepted a present of money from a person who had been concerned in the Monjpoor robbery, whilst that person was undergoing examination before the Political Agent on this very charge, which was afterwards proved on oath before the Court of Criminal Justice for this province; that the witnesses for the prosecution were two, one of whom, Jafferbhaee, was at Rajkote, and the other, Sewys Patell, might be expected to attend in a day or two.

3. This witness arrived on the evening of the 3d instant; and, considering the long notice given to the Political Agent to have all the witnesses in attendance, the arrangements adopted must have been most incomplete, or the instructions of Government must have been neglected.

4. The

4. The result of my inquiries is contained in the accompanying proceedings, from which the Honourable the Governor in Council will observe that I do not consider the charge proved, and which I have notified to Chotum Lall, telling him that the proceedings would be forwarded to Government. Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. Giberne*,
Rajcote, 5 March 1839. Officiating Judicial Commissioner.

PROCEEDINGS held before *George Giberne*, Esq., in a Court of Inquiry at Rajcote, as directed by Government, in its Secretary's Letter of the 25th of November 1838.

Monday, 4 March 1839.

Two letters from Mr. Secretary Willoughby, dated 25th of November 1838, and the 10th of January 1839, are read and recorded.

Nos. 1 and 2.

Chotum Lall Bappabhyee, late native agent of the Rajcote Agency, is present, and is charged with having received about the sum of 300 rupees more or less, as a bribe to conceal his knowledge, or assist in preventing the detection of the parties concerned in a very serious and extensive robbery, which was committed in the year 1832, at a place called Monjpoor, in the Dussara Talooka, Katteewar, on or about the period when Captain Lang was at Gondull, investigating the case, on or about the month of July or August 1832, corresponding with Shawon or Bhadurwa Sunvut 1888, at the above-mentioned place, Gondull.

Chotum Lall is asked whether he is guilty or not guilty. He pleads "Not guilty."

Sewye Purbhut, caste Coole, resident in the village of Panwa, Dussara Talooka, profession cultivator, patell, aged 55 years, is called, and duly sworn, and admonished; his deposition is taken, and recorded No. 3.

Knows the defendant, Chottum Laull, who is present. For the purpose of concealing the robbery at Monjpoor, when Captain Lang came to inquire into it, witness and Hurrybhaee, and Jafferbye, went to Chotum Lall, who was living in a tent outside Gondull. Witness gave a bag, containing 800 rupees, to Hurreebhye, about dark in the evening, and accompanied him with them to Chotum Lall. Jafferbye was present when the bag was given to Hurreebhye; the money was not counted. It was at Ooda Shet's house where Hurreebhye came to call him to give the money; he (witness) took the bag with him, and outside the town he gave the bag to Hurreebhyee, who took it in to the tent, and put it under Chotum Lall's leg. Chotum Lall was reading a paper, and looked up; said nothing; no other person was in the tent; about seven or eight sepoys were outside, about 10 or 12 guz distant. Witness did not go in, but looked in; saw Hurrybhaee put the bag of money under Chotum Lall's leg. Hurreebhaee said nothing, and only remained sufficiently long to put the bag of rupees down, and came out. Witness gave the bag to Hurreebhyee outside the town, about 100 paces from the tent. Hurreebhyee told witness at Jaitpoor, about a month previous, that he would settle the business. Witness never spoke himself to Chotum Lall on the subject. Hurrybhyee and Chotum Lall are relations.

Twenty days after the delivery of the above rupees came to Rajcote; Jafferbhyee and he (witness) went to Chotum Lall; he (witness) carried 200 rupees in a bag; Jafferbhyee offered this to Chotumlaul, which he (witness) saw; he was eight or ten paces distant; Chotum Lall refused it, and said, give it to him with whom arrangement has been made, and to be under no alarm or fears; that day witness gave the money to Hurreebhyee; no one was present; Hurrybhaye was a sircar's carcoon, in charge of the Dussara talooka. When the money was given to Chotum Lall in the tent, the night was dark; no moon; it was the rainy season, but it did not rain; there was mud.

Witness has had his deposition taken three times, and he formerly said 800 rupees was given at Gondulnote. This is not true; in the former deposition he gave, 500 or 600 were stated.

Question by *Defendant.*] Captain Lang inquired into the case of the Dussara robbery; the carcoons in attendance were Madoo Lall, Rao Shaib Chotoumllaul, Hurreebhyee Metha; about 2,300 rupees were brought by me to Gondull from Dussara; spent in different ways.

By the *Court.*] Hurreebhye put the bag of money under the right leg of Chottum Lall when the latter was sitting in his tent.

Defendant declines putting any further question; the witness withdraws.

Jafferbye Achookjee, a Mussulman, resident in Dussara, aged 55 years, agent (Karbaree), is called, and duly sworn, and admonished; his deposition is taken, and recorded No. 4, the substance of which is, that about six or seven years ago a gang robbery occurred at Monjpoor, a moshul was sent on; Dussara and Patell Sewye, came to Rajcote, and witness taxed him with the folly of his act, and that he would lose the country. Sewye said that he had settled the business with Hurreebhye Mettra, and therefore not to be afraid; that same year went to Joonaghur with Captain Lang's suwarree; there Hurreebhae said to Sewya Patell in witness's presence, that some money must be given to Chot-

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

tumlal, and then his business would be settled, otherwise it would not; Hurmbhoye settled that 1,000 rupees should be then given; Patell Sewye gave 300 rupees to Humbhan; witness saw them; they were Ahmedabad siccas, taken out of a bag, and Hurreebhye fastened them in his cloth; did not see the money given to Chottumlaul. Then the suwarree all came to Gondull the same year in the rains; Hurrabhye then threatened if the money was not paid no arrangement would be made, and 300 rupees was given by Patell Sewye to Umrutlall at Gondull; witness was present; the Patell counted the money to Hurreebhyee, and Hurrabhye counted it to Umrutloul; Hurreebhye told him to give the money to Umrutloul; a few days after this Hurreebhyee came to him (witness), and the patell, and required the latter to give some more money, and the patell said he would go with Hurreebhye, so they went, and witness also; Patell Sewye gave the bag of money to Hurreebhye in the house of Oodhowsett, the sum was 350 rupees which was counted, they were siccas; witness saw them; they then went outside the town to Chotum Lall's tent, and Hurreebhyee went in; he (witness) staid outside; he did not see whether Hurreebhye gave the money or not, he was 20 or 25 paces off; whether the Patell Sewye saw the money given or not cannot say; but he was nearer the tent eight or ten paces; saw Chottum Lall in the tent; when they went the night was moonlight; about a month afterwards came to Rajcote, and there, in company with Patell Sewye, who took 500 rupees, went to Chotum Laul, and there the patell gave him (witness) the money to give to Chottumlaul, but he would not take it; he said, give it to him who has settled the business; before this Hurreebhye had asked for the money, but Pall Sewye said he would misappropriate it, and that he would give it himself; after our return home we called Hurreebhye, and gave the whole sum to him; and two days after this 200 rupees more was given to Hurreebyee, all this was for Chotum Lall; and again, two or three days after this, 200 rupees were given to Hurrebhyee, who still required him to give more, and to send it by hoondee; whether it was so or not cannot say; heard that Patell Sewyee was a principal in the gang robbery.

Question by the *Court.*] How many rupees were taken to Chotumlall, at Gondul, by witness, Hurreebhye and Sewye?—*Answer.* 400 rupees; it was the period of the rains, though the rain did not fall at the time; there was no mud; never spoke of the business to Chotum Lall; always spoke to Hurreebhye.

Defendant declines asking any questions; witness withdraws.

The evidence for the prosecution is here closed, and the defendant is called upon for his defence.

He states that the whole of the evidence is false, and that the comparison of the present with the former depositions will establish the fact, that he had nothing to do in the investigation of the case before Captain Lang. He begs to ask a few more questions to the first witness.

Patell Sewye is therefore again called; he says 4,250 rupees were brought from Dussara, the first time 2,300 rupees; then 1,500 rupees, another time 400 rupees, and another time 175 rupees; the total 4,300 or 4,400 rupees.

By the *Court.*] In your former deposition you said that 500 or 600 rupees were given through Hurreebhye to Chotum Lall; this day you have said 800 rupees were given; which is true?—

Witness gives no answer.

By the *Court.*] In your former deposition you said the rupees were placed under Chotum Lall's left leg, and now you say they were placed under his right leg?—

Witness gives no answer.

The case is here closed, and the Court proceeds to record a few remarks.

As this is an extra-judicial inquiry it is not considered necessary to record the former deposition of the witnesses, as they have already been forwarded to Government by the Political Agent; the Court has, nevertheless, taken advantage of the same on record in the Political Agent's office to compare the depositions this day given with those on former occasions; in reference to the charge this day inquired into, there are considerable discrepancies between them, and of an important nature, the amount of the bribe said to be offered to Chotum Lall, through Hurreebhyee, at Gondull, was stated by Patell Sewyee in his former depositions to have been 400 or 500 rupees; this day he states it to have been 800 rupees. Jafferbhye in his former depositions makes the sum given at Gondull 200 rupees; this day he first said it was 350 rupees, and subsequently, when the question was repeated, towards the close of the examination he made it 400 rupees. Patell Sewye in his former depositions stated that the money was placed by Hurreebhye under Chotum Lall's left leg; this day he says it was placed under the right leg; this may not be very material, but that which is very material is the variety shown in the depositions of the only two witnesses produced this day. Patell Sewye declares the amount taken to Chottum Lall by Hurreebhye was not counted; he makes it 800 rupees; Jafferbye says he saw it counted, and it was 350 rupees, and afterwards says it was 400 rupees. Patell Sewye says it was a dark night, no moon when this sum was taken; Jafferbye says it was moonlight. To go yet further; even supposing the sum given was established, that the particulars agreed in every respect, what does it amount to, but that Chotumlaul was reading, Hurreebhye went into the tent and placed the money before him, no words were spoken; here there is a wide field for conjecture, and who can say whether Chotumlall merely

merely received the sum as a deposit from Hurrybhoy, or on any other account; his guilt cannot implicate Chotumlall. Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

The person Hurrybhye, whose name is so frequently mentioned in the depositions, it appears from the records of the Political Agent's office, was tried and convicted for having participated in an extensive plunder obtained by violence and bloodshed, by a gang of robbers, and was sentenced to be imprisoned for seven years; his evidence in corroboration of the facts stated by the witnesses, Sewyee Patell and Jafferbye, is unnecessary, as on the trial he denied these facts, though he afterwards offered to make some disclosures, if pardoned.

Lastly, the Court is of opinion that the evidence of Sewye Patell, under any circumstances, should be received with great caution; he himself was one of the leaders of the gang, and hence his character may be estimated; his feelings may also be considered enlisted in the cause, for he was drained of his ill-gotton wealth by Hurreebhye, under the representations made by that consummate offender, and he may have been too ready to believe what he was anxious to accomplish, and equally ready to assist in endeavouring to convict those to whom he would attribute the loss of large sums paid in fruitless bribes.

The opinion of the Court is, that the charge is not proved against Chotumlall, and he is told that a report to that effect will be made to Government.

The Court is dissolved, as it appears from the Political Agent's letter, dated the 24th ultimo, that he has no intention of bringing forward any other charge.

Rajcote, 4 March 1839. (signed) *G. Giberne.*

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor. No. 2371.

THIS is a re-hearing of the fourth charge treated of in the Right honourable the late Governor's Minute of 2d October 1837, and in mine of 15th October.

I have in those former proceedings recorded my opinion of the cases brought forward against Chotum Lall, and beg to await the opinion of Mr. Anderson.

23 March 1839. (signed) *J. Farish.*

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Anderson.* No. 2372.

THE authority trying Chotum Lall on this, the fourth charge, not thinking him guilty of it, I do not see any just ground for our not coming to the same conclusion. So far, therefore, as concerns this charge, Chotum Lal should be released from it. On all the other charges against Chotum Lal, he was, though subject to some strong suspicion, equally acquitted. I, therefore, think that the sentence against Chotum Lal should thus far be modified, that though it is on many accounts inexpedient that he should return to his office in Kattywar, yet that he may be employed in any other situation of the Government in any other part of its territories, and he and the Political Agent be so informed.

Mr. Erskine should be informed that Government disapproves of his having left Rajcote without leaving instructions for the conduct of this trial, as noticed by Mr. Giberne in the 2d and 3d paras. of his letter.

It does not appear anywhere that I can recollect, why Mr. Erskine left Rajkote at this time. He ought to have had good reason for doing so.

It may be stated as rather strange to Mr. Erskine, that after having written so strongly of the extent of Chotumlal's bribery and corruption, that he has been unable to establish perfectly one single instance against him, and that he was not prepared with other charges against him beyond the fourth, which he himself tried, but which before another tribunal has failed.

(signed) *G. W. Anderson.*

10 April 1839. *J. Farish.*

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

No. 2373.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to *James Erskine*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

1. With reference to the correspondence noted in the margin,* I am desired by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you copy of a letter from Mr. Giberne, Officiating Judicial Commissioner for Guzerat, dated the 5th March last, forwarding his proceedings in the re-investigation of the fourth charge against Chottum Lall Bappabhye, late native agent to the Rajkote Agency.

* 1. To the First Assistant in Charge of the Agency in Katteewar, dated 10 March 1838.
2. To the Political Agent in Katteewar, dated 26 June 1838.
3. From ditto, dated 28 Sept. 1838.
4. Reply to, dated 25 Nov. 1838.

2. In forwarding these documents, I am directed to inform you that the Governor in Council concurs in opinion with Mr. Giberne, that Chottum Lall is not guilty of the charge above-mentioned, and is pleased to acquit that individual of the same accordingly.

3. I am at the same time directed to observe, that as on all the other charges against Chotum Lall, he was, though subject to strong suspicions, nevertheless acquitted, the sentence against that individual should be annulled; and although it is on many accounts inexpedient that he should be reinstated in his late office in Katteewar, yet he may be employed in any other situation under Government in any other part of its territories.

4. The Governor in Council considers it rather strange that, after having written to Government so strongly of the extent of Chottum Lall's corruption and bribery, you have been unable to establish perfectly one single instance against him, and that you were not prepared to bring forward any other charges beyond the fourth, which you had yourself investigated, but which has now before another tribunal failed.

5. With reference to the 2d and 3d paras. of Mr. Giberne's letter, I am instructed to inform you that, in the opinion of Government, you ought not to have left Rajkote without furnishing instructions for conducting this investigation, and that indeed, as far as at present advised, the Government does not find any reason why you should have absented yourself from your station at the time. It was, in fact, an occasion when, considering the nature of the case under investigation, you should rather have made a point of being present.

6. Chottum Lall has been informed to the effect of the 2d and 3d paras. of this communication.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 22 May 1839.

No. 2374.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to *Chotum Lall Bappabhyee*, late Native Agent of the Rajkote Agency.

1. With reference to my letter, dated the 25th November last, I am directed to signify to you, that Mr. Giberne, the Officiating Judicial Commissioner for Guzerat, has forwarded to Government the proceedings held by him in the investigation of the fourth charge preferred against you by the Political Agent in Kattywar, and that as it appears from them that it has not been proved, the Honourable the Governor in Council is pleased to acquit you of the same.

2. I am further desired to apprise you that, on all the other charges against you, you were, though subject to strong suspicions, nevertheless acquitted, and that the Governor in Council is therefore pleased to annul the sentence against you, so far as to permit your being employed in any situation under the British Government in any other part of its territories; but it is deemed inexpedient to reinstate you in your late office in Katteewar.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 22 May 1839.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to *G. Giberne*, Esq., Officiating Judicial Commissioner for Guzerat.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

No. 2375.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 5th March last, forwarding the proceedings held by you in the re-investigation of the fourth charge against Chottum Lall Bappahbye, the late native agent to the Rajkote Agency.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you that Government, concurring with you in opinion that the above-mentioned charge against Chottum Lall has not been proved, has been pleased to acquit that individual of the same.

3. The Political Agent in Katteewar and Chottum Lall have been informed accordingly.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 22 May 1839.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 12 June 1839.

From *J. Erskine*, Esq., Political Agent, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

No. 2867.

Sir,

INTENDING to submit for the consideration and sanction of the Honourable the Governor in Council a plan for the revision of this establishment, consequent on the dismissal of the late native agent, Chottum Lall Bapabhye, may I request the favour of being informed of the final decision of Government in the case of this individual with reference to the late re-investigation by Mr. Giberne, the Visiting Judicial Commissioner for Guzerat, of one of the charges on which his dismissal was formerly authorised.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. Erskine*,
Political Agent.

Katteeawar Political Agents' Office,
Rajcote, 25 May 1839.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Board.

No. 2868.

THE decision in this case has intermediately been communicated to Mr. Erskine, and this may therefore be recorded.

(signed) *J. R. Carnac.*
J. Farish.
G. W. Anderson.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 23 October 1839.

No. 4519.

SUBSTANCE of a Petition from *Mehta Chotumlall Bappabhoy*, Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, to the Honourable the Governor in Council; dated 18th, and received 24th June 1839.

SINCE my last petition to Government, of the 9th June 1839, it has come to my knowledge that the Political Agent of Katteewar has posted a proclamation in his kutcherry regarding me, as well as in several other places, copy of which I beg to enclose herewith for your Honour's information.

With regard to this, I beg to remark that, in the order which has been issued to me, under date the 22d May last, it is stated that all the charges and suspicions against me have been discarded, and that the former decision has been rescinded. In the face of such an intimation, I am quite surprised to see the above proclamation. The Political Agent has practised every kind of injustice towards me, and does not still cease to do so; but it is not proper for me to dwell upon that subject.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

After the return of the Judicial Commissioner for Bombay, after having investigated my case, I resided at Rajcote for some days, when the Political Agent induced the Raja, by sending sepoys repeatedly to him, to expel me from that place. These proceedings, which betray jealousy and a motive of doing wrong, I have thought it necessary to bring to the notice of Government, who will, I trust, take the above circumstances into consideration.

(signed) *W. S. Boyd,*
Acting Secretary to Government.

Translation of the Proclamation alluded to in the foregoing Petition.

James Erskine, Esq., Political Agent in Katyawar, on the part of the Honourable Company, proclaims, for general information, that Mehta Chotumlall Bappobhoy, who held the office of Native Agent on this establishment, has been dismissed from this department, under an order from Government, dated May.

(signed) *W. S. Boyd,*
Rajcote, 3 June 1839. Acting Secretary to Government.

No. 4520. Minute by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Board.

If this representation be correct, the proclamation, such as is here handed up, was unusual and unauthorised, and calculated, as far as possible, to nullify the acquittal of Chottum Lall.

That in the first place, this should be referred to the assistant in charge of the Political Agency for his report.

(signed) *J. R. Carnac.*
J. Farish.
1 October 1839. *G. W. Anderson.*

No. 4521. From *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, to the Assistant Political Agent in Charge, Katteewar.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you translation of a petition from Mehta Chotum Lall Bappabhoy, dated the 18th June last, and to request that you will be pleased to furnish Government with your report on the points therein adverted to.

I have, &c.

(signed) *L. R. Reid,*
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 11 October 1839.

No. 4522. Substance of a Petition from *Chotum Lall Bappabhoy*, Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, to the Honourable the Governor in Council; dated 9th, and received 15th June 1839.

I received an order written by Mr. Willoughby, under the directions of Government, dated the 22d May 1839; in which it is stated, that on a report from Mr. Giberne of his investigation of the 4th charge preferred against me by the Political Agent in Katteewar, and the suspicions entertained with regard to other matters, Government has been pleased, from a regard to justice, to nullify the charge, and suspicions, and to revoke the former decision. It is, however, stated in the above order, that Government cannot reinstate me in my former situation in Kattyawar. This point rests with the pleasure of Government, by which I must abide; I, however, beg to request that Government will be kind enough to confer upon me some other situation suitable to me.

The

The order for my suspension was issued on the 27th July 1836; from which date up to this time I have not received my pay, the amount of which has been held in deposit in the Treasury, until the removal of the suspicions against me. As these suspicions have now been cleared up, I beg to submit that the amount of my salary should be paid to me. At the same time I request that Government will inform me whence I should receive my salary in future. Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

(signed) *W. S. Boyd,*
Acting Sec. to Govt.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Farish*, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Anderson*. No. 4523.

THE circumstances of Chotum Lall's case are such as to have rendered it necessary that he should be removed from his situation in the office of the Political Agent at Rajkote; and having incurred this disqualification, and been properly removed from his situation in that office, he can have no claim to salary or pay until he obtains another situation.

The circumstances of the case may be communicated to the Revenue Commissioner, with intimation that Government would be glad to find that Chotum Lall could be employed as commavisdar, or in some other similar office in Guzerat; an arrangement which might the more readily be effected if a suitable person for the office of native agent in Kattewar could be selected from among the native officers in revenue employ in that province. Captain Lang's situation may give him opportunities of ascertaining this, and the arrangement might be effected by Captain Jacob placing himself in communication with that officer and Mr. Vibart.

(signed) *J. Farish,*
1 October 1839. *G. W. Anderson.*

From *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, to Captain *Lepaud Jacob*, Acting First Assistant in Charge, Katteewar. No. 4524.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to forward to you translation of a petition from Chotum Lall Bappabhoy, dated the 9th June last, and with reference to the concluding part of the first paragraph thereof, to request that you will be pleased to communicate the circumstances of Chotum Lall's case to the Revenue Commissioner, with an intimation that Government would be glad if employment could be found for him as commavisdar, or in some other similar office in Guzerat; an arrangement which it appears to the Governor in Council might the more readily be effected if a suitable person for the office of native agent in Katteewar could be selected from among the native officers in revenue employ in that province.

2. As Captain Lang's situation of Acting Political Agent in the Mahee Caunta, may afford that officer opportunities of ascertaining this circumstance, the Governor in Council authorises your communicating with him on the subject, in concert with the Revenue Commissioner.

I have, &c.
Bombay Castle, (signed) *L. R. Reid,*
17 October 1839. Acting Chief Sec. to Govt.

RESOLUTION of Government in the Political Department; dated 17 October 1839. No. 4525.

WITH reference to the translation of a petition from Chotum Lall Bappabhoy, dated the 9th June last, Ordered that he be informed, through the Persian Department, that the circumstances of his case are such as to have rendered it necessary that he should be removed from his situation in the office of the Political Agent at Rajcote, and that, having incurred this disqualification, and been properly removed from employment in that office, he can have no claim to salary or pay until he obtains another situation.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

With reference to Chotum Lall's request that Government will confer upon him some other situation, Ordered, that he be referred to Captain Jacob, the officer in charge of the Rajcote Agency, who has been addressed by Government on the subject.

(signed) *L. R. Reid,*
Acting Chief Sec. to Govt.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 31 December 1839.

No. 5485. From Captain *G. L. Jacob*, Assistant Political Agent in Charge, to *W. S. Boyd*, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your letter, No. 1760, of 17th October, forwarding copy of a petition of the late native agent Chotum Lall, complaining of a proclamation issued regarding him by Mr. Erskine, as also of his ejectment from the town of Rajkote at the desire of that gentleman, and in reply beg to state that a proclamation similar to that mentioned in the petition is now appended in the Political Agent's kutcherry, and is marked in the Duftur as having been transmitted to a few of the chief talookdars. Touching the second item of complaint, I beg to annex translate of a reply of the Rajkote chief to my call on him for information.

I have, &c.
(signed) *G. L. Jacob,*
Assistant Political Agent in Charge.

Head Quarters,
Katteewar Political Agency, Juria,
7 November 1839.

SUBSTANCE of a Letter from the Chief of Rajkote to Captain *Jacob*, dated Assoo and 14 S. 1895 (A.D. 5 November 1839).

AFTER compliments and recapitulation of Captain Jacob's letter. This year on Chuetr Sood 8 (A. D. 22 March 1839,) Mr. Erskine's peon came to me, directing me to send my chief karbharee, on which I sent Mehta Unoop Ram Makur and Jemadar Fazil, who proceeded to the Political Agent's bungalow, and there were asked by Mr. Erskine why I kept Chotum Lall in my town after he had been dismissed by Government, and desired that he might be sent away. My people stated difficulties as to the ejection of a person in the service of Government, but Mr. Erskine replied that he was not in the service of Government, and that I was to dismiss him. My people returned to inform me of this conversation, and at that time Mr. Erskine's peon Hussan came to me with a message to inquire why I should keep a person in my town who had been dismissed by Government, and stated that he was desired to say that if I wished to preserve Mr. Erskine's friendship, I should turn Chotum Lall out of the town to-morrow by the latest. I replied I would do so accordingly, but I was much grieved and perplexed as to the manner in which I should execute the unpleasant task of turning a person of consequence and a Government servant out of my town; at last I hit upon the expedient of sending my karbharees to a relation of Chotum Lall's to communicate what had passed; a reply was received that he would depart in three or four days. Next morning Peon Hussan came again to me, asking what reply he was to convey to Mr. Erskine, as to Chotum Lall's departure. I seated the peon whilst I sent my karbharees to Chotum Lall, to ask what reply I was to give as to the period of his departure, as an answer was required of me. Chotum Lall replied that he would leave on the morrow, but that if Mr. Erskine was urgent he would depart at once. On this I deputed my karbharees to the Political Agent to inquire; in the meantime Chotum Lall took his departure. This was communicated to Mr. Erskine, who replied you have done well. I had nothing to do myself with his ejectment.

Signed as usual, by the Thakor.

(True translation.)
(signed) *G. L. Jacob,*
Assistant Political Agent in Charge.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to *D. A. Blane*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

No. 5486.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of Captain Jacob's letter, dated the 7th ultimo, reporting on a petition from Chotum Lall Bappabhoy, complaining of a proclamation issued regarding him by Mr. Erskine, and of his ejectment from Rajkote, by the order of that gentleman.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you that in the opinion of the Governor in Council, this unauthorised proclamation is very improper, and calculated, as far as possible, to nullify the acquittal of that individual by Government.

3. You will be pleased, immediately on the receipt of this communication, to cause the proclamation in question to be taken down from the Political Agent's kutchery.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 30 December 1839.

RESOLUTION.

No. 5487.

WITH reference to the translation of a petition from Chottum Lall Bappobaee, dated the 18th June last, Ordered, that the petitioner be informed from the Persian Department, that the Political Agent in Katteewar has been instructed to cause the proclamation issued without authority by Mr. Erskine, regarding him (the petitioner) to be taken down from the kutchery.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 23 October 1839.

From *G. L. Jacob*, Esquire, Assistant Political Agent in Charge, to *L. R. Reid*, Esquire, Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

No. 4583.

Sir,

1. I FEEL it my duty to bring to the notice of the Honourable the Governor in Council the urgent necessity of a speedy revision of the establishment of this agency, which is at present such as to render it impossible to prevent arrears accumulating beyond hope of adjustment.

2. The most effective members of the native establishment, corruption unhappily in this country too often keeping pace with talent, have been long since removed; the situation of native agent has been vacant for three years, that of the next most competent karkoon for one and a half; and I regret to say, from among all that are left, there is not one man, except the mehta now attached to Captain Aston, named Bhugwan Lal, for some years Captain Lang's chief karkoon, who is qualified by intelligence, memory, and general knowledge of the country, as a successor to Chotum Lal. The sheristadar, head jubtee, karkoon, and treasurer, are each effective in their departments, the rest (I am writing only of the native establishment) scarcely average mediocrity.

3. A brief summary of the vast amount of business in this agency will, at one glance, convince the Honourable Board of the propriety of appealing to it on the present occasion. In the Judicial Department there are 122 prisoners waiting disposal. I need not allude to the volumes this short para. will be the parent of.—In the Jubtee branch 28 talookas, 5 purgunnahs, and 78 separate villages under control of the agency.—In the Financial Department the arrears due to the Honourable Company, from their Highnesses the Guikwar and Nuwab's Governments, of *Rs.* 12,62,661. 10 *a.* 9 *p.* from every talooka in the province; besides which *Rs.* 5,46,059. 12 *a.* are due to Hamsedars for past tribute under British guarantee, the recovering of which, as far as concerns the welfare of the province, is even more urgent, the nature of the debt precluding

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

option of remission, and its interest ruining the debtor. I do not in this amount, of course, include the heavy sum claimed by the Soondurjee family from the Jamunder arbitration, neither are the guaranteed debts of the Gondul state given; this state, with some others, is on the verge of bankruptcy.

4. In the civil and political branch here designated Moolkee, there are now on the register 1,274 suits unadjusted, many of these cases being of as complicated nature as ever came before a court of civil law, and though the mode of ultimate adjustment of course differs, yet the inquiry necessary to secure that adjustment is as needful, and the settlement by procrastination of one or both parties often rendered more complicated, than when a simple verdict clears the roll and the judge's breast; at the same time it is evident, that unless the parties who seek the interference of this agency can be induced to entertain some hope of a termination of their cause, they will gradually fall back upon their ancient means of obtaining redress by taking the law into their own hands; hitherto it has been the certainty of obtaining redress for real grievances, more than the terrors of our military operations or of judicial procedure, that has brought this large province to its present state of tranquillity.

5. Mr. Gillies, the head accountant and an able man, has for some time given such assistance to Mr. Erskine, in the native department, as in a measure to supply the place of a native agent, but this individual having proceeded to Bombay with the Political Agent, the deficiency of the establishment presses itself upon me with greater force. I am given to understand that Mr. Gillies is desirous of obtaining employment in Bombay; should he succeed, may I solicit the early appointment of an effective substitute, or otherwise an order for his speedy return to his duties.

6. The want of assistance is particularly felt just now, when sickness is so rife, that during this month past every clerk in the English department has been laid up with fever, the native portion of the establishment being nearly equally crippled, and myself also suffering under the prevailing epidemic.

7. As the Political Agent's illness, I am informed, is such as to give little prospect of his return to the province for a considerable time, if at all, it becomes a solemn duty that I owe to the Government I serve, to make it acquainted with the fact, that no amount of zeal, assiduity, and labour can, with exerting means, keep the work of the country under.

8. For reasons above stated it is most urgently to be entreated that this establishment should be completed as soon as possible, after all that has passed here. I would respectfully beg to suggest, as some slight checks against corruption, that the title of native agent be abolished. The Agency has been evidently enlarged since this office was first created. The general control of the various distinct departments can be safely vested only in the European agent himself, under whom, therefore, it is politic that each head of department should feel himself directly to be, but a thoroughly efficient dewanee department needs organisation. If it be the pleasure of the Honourable the Governor in Council, I will lose no time in recommending measures for this purpose, but considering my position, I hesitate so doing until I may be favoured with instructions.

I have, &c.

(signed) *G. L. Jacob*,
Assistant Political Agent in Charge.

Katteewar, Political Agent's Office,
Rajkote, 21 September 1839.

No. 4584. MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Farish*.

CAPTAIN JACOB to be informed that provision will shortly be made to supply the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Erskine; he will communicate with the new Political Agent, and from the report which he submits of the state

state of the office, Government will be prepared to take the subject into consideration. Captain Jacob has done quite right in reporting the condition in which he has found the department. Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

(signed) *J. R. Carnac.*
James Farish.

12 October 1839.

No. 1785 of 1839.

From *W. S. Boyd*, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, to Captain *G. L. Jacob*, Esq., Assistant in Charge of the Katteewar Agency at Bhooj, Bombay. No. 4585.

Sir,

1. I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 21st ultimo, No. 233, and to inform you that Mr. Erskine having resigned his situation of Political Agent in Katteewar, provision will shortly be made to supply the vacancy thus created.

2. On the appointment of a new Political Agent you will be pleased to communicate with that officer regarding the condition in which you have found the several departments now in your charge, and on the receipt of that officer's report on the subject, Government will be prepared to take the same into consideration.

3. Mr. Gillies, the head accountant to the Katteewar Agency, has been directed to return forthwith to Rajcote, for the purpose of resuming charge of his situation.

I have, &c.,
(signed) *W. S. Boyd,*
Acting Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 17 Oct. 1839.

No. 1784 of 1839.

From *W. S. Boyd*, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, to *J. Gillies*, Esq., Head Accountant to the Katteewar Agency, Bombay. No. 4586.

Sir,

As it appears from a communication received from Captain Jacob, Assistant in charge of the Rajcote Agency, that your services are much required by that officer, the Honourable the Governor in Council is pleased to direct that you will forthwith return to Katteewar for the purpose of resuming charge of your situation.

I have, &c.,
(signed) *W. S. Boyd,*
Acting Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 17 October 1839.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 27 November 1839.

From *G. L. Jacob*, Esq., Assistant Political Agent in Charge, to *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay. No. 4954.

Sir,

1. WITH reference to my letter, No. 233, 21st ultimo, and to the very urgent necessity therein but faintly pourtrayed of more efficient means to carry on the work of this agency, that despair of clearing away the heavy arrears may not tend to the apathy concerning them that helplessness engenders, I do myself the honour to solicit the extension to the Political Department, of the same provision that has been found requisite for the Revenue and Judicial Departments, as notified by the Judges of the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut in their circular, No. 1523 of 1839, under date 31st August last, viz., that all balances of pay that cannot be claimed by the parties, due for broken periods in consequence of suspension, death, or resignation of public servants, till the appointment of their successor, be authorised to be applied toward entertaining additional karkoons when they may be required.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

2. I take this opportunity of stating, that I have filled up the vacancy in the English Department,* in which not all the efficient labour of the head clerk has been able to prevent arrears that draw down on this agency the censure of the Accountant-general and other controlling authority, by a young man of good education and character, and rather superior attainments, and I would humbly beg respectfully to reiterate my hope that Government may be pleased to authorise me to take steps whereby the native establishment may be rescued from its present lamentable state of inefficiency.

I have, &c.

Head Quarters, Kattewar
Political Agency, Camp Ballacherry,
15 October 1839.

(signed) *G. L. Jacob,*
Assistant Political Agent in Charge.

No. 4946.

MINUTE by the Board.

IT is too late to apply the rule in the present instance, as the cases of the persons suspended have been disposed of.

The state of the establishment at Rajcote should be communicated to Mr. Blane, with the recommendation of Government that he should select some one of ability, and in whom he has confidence, for the important situation of his native agent.

For the exact state of his establishment he should refer to his assistant, who should not in the meantime fill up any vacancy.

(signed) *J. R. Carnac.*
James Farish.
G. W. Anderson.

9 November 1839.

No. 1931 of 1839.

No. 4947.

From *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, to *D. Blane*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar, Dhoolia, on route to Bombay.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you copies of two letters from Captain Jacob, Assistant in charge of the Rajcote Agency, dated respectively the 21st September and 15th ultimo, regarding the present inadequate state of the establishment of that agency.

2. In forwarding these documents, I am desired to convey to you the recommendation of Government that you will be pleased to select a person of ability, and in whom you have confidence, for the important situation of native agent to the Rajkote Agency.

3. For the exact state of the establishment of the Rajkote Agency the Governor in Council desires me to refer you to your assistant, Captain Jacob, who has this day been instructed not to fill up any vacancy in the meantime.

4. With reference to 1st para. of Captain Jacob's letter of the 15th ultimo, I am desired to state that it is too late now to apply the rule therein alluded to in the present instance, as the cases of the persons suspended have been disposed of.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle,
21 November 1839.

(signed) *L. R. Reid,*
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

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* Caused by the retirement on pension of Damother Heerazee, and the promotion of his son Ragoba to succeed him.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

No. 1932 of 1839.

No. 4948.

From *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, to Captain *G. L. Jacob*, Esq., Assistant in Charge of the Rajkote Agency, Bombay.

Sir,

In reply to your letter, dated the 15th ultimo, regarding the present inadequate state of the Rajkote Agency, I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit for your information and guidance a copy of my letter of this date to Mr. Blane, the Political Agent.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle, 21 November 1839. (signed) *L. R. Reid*,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

Extrract Bombay Political, Consultation, 31 December 1839.

No. 5420.

From *D. Blane*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar, to *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, with enclosure on the subject of the present inadequate state of the establishment of the Rajkote Agency.

2. The difference of language in the province which I have just quitted excludes the selection of any one of whose abilities I have a personal knowledge for the important situation of native agent; but I purpose addressing the Revenue Commissioner in hopes that he may be able to recommend some competent individual with the requisite experience in business from the establishments of the Guzerat collectorates.

3. With reference to the concluding para., I would beg leave to observe that the disposal of the cases of the persons suspended would not appear to affect the principle of any actual saving, from the fixed allowance for establishment being legitimately applied to the employment of extra karkoons. Indeed, the salary in deposit cannot finally be carried to the "Fine Fund" until such ultimate decision have been passed, and I would therefore hope that if any such saving actually exist, its appropriation in the manner solicited by Captain Jacob may be sanctioned, as the necessity would appear to be undeniable, to the extent even of reflecting upon the system of management under which such enormous arrears of business can have accumulated.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle, 25 November 1839. (signed) *D. Blane*,
Political Agent in Katteewar.

No. 2100 of 1839.

No. 5421.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to Captain *G. L. Jacob*, Assistant in Charge of the Rajkote Agency, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to Mr. Acting Chief Secretary Reid's letter, dated the 21st ultimo, No. 1932, I am directed to transmit to you copy of a communication from Mr. Blane, Political Agent in Katteewar, dated the 25th ultimo, and to inform you that for the reasons urged by that officer the Honourable the Governor in Council is pleased to sanction the measure proposed in the 1st para. of your letter, dated the 15th October last, No. 248.

2. I am on this occasion desired to request that you will be pleased to report, for the information of Government, the amount of the stoppages now in deposit in your office.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Bombay Castle, 23 December 1839. Secretary to Government.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

No. 2101 of 1839.

No. 5422.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to *D. Blane*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar, Bombay.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 25th ultimo, in reply to Mr. Acting Chief Secretary Reid's letter, dated the 21st ultimo, connected with the present inadequate state of the establishment of the Rajkote Agency, and to transmit, for your information, copy of my communication of this date to Captain Jacob on the subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 23 December 1839.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 6 May 1840.

No. 1745.

From *D. Blane*, Esq., Political Agent Kattiwar, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

1. I HAVE delayed, in expectation of a reply to my letter, No. 30, of the 21st January last, to submit, for the confirmation of Government, my selection of a native agent, under the instructions conveyed in your despatch, No. 2101 of the 23d December last.

2. Several persons unconnected with the province have offered themselves as candidates, and I had in view to obtain the services of an experienced native officer from the establishment of the Guzerat collectorates; but on renewing my acquaintance with the duties of the situation, I am impressed with the importance of local information in facilitating a decision upon the questions which arise in so peculiarly constituted a society.

3. To introduce an individual unprovided with such information would, I conceive, be to seek through an intermediate agent what it is desirable to obtain direct, and the promotion of one of those who have served in this department has therefore appeared to me the most eligible course.

4. Bugwanhal, the mehta for some time attached to Captain Lang, possesses also distinguished qualifications, in intelligence, memory, steadiness, &c., for the appointment. Belonging to the family of the Peshwa's Mujmondars, he is likewise of most respectable and responsible connexions, and I have every reason to believe that he will continue to give the satisfaction which his conduct has afforded me since my arrival here.

5. Testimonials to his character are herewith enclosed; and I would solicit the sanction of Government to my nominating him to the vacant situation.

I have, &c.
(signed) *D. Blane*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar, Political Agent's Office,
Rajkote, 28 March 1840.

EXTRACT of a Letter from Captain *W. Lang*, Acting Political Agent in Katteewar, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government; dated 22 March 1837.

4. I SHALL likewise feel obliged by your bringing to the notice of the Right honourable the Governor-general in Council the claim which the carcoon, who has conducted the duties of native agent since I have been in charge, has to some extra remuneration; this individual has, for many years, been performing the duties of his nephew, one of the Government mujmoodars in this office, who was till lately too young to take charge of them himself. He is now, however,

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

however, acting for the carcoon, who was sent to Ahdooee, and draws his pay of 30 rupees per month. I hope, in addition to this, that the sum of 500 rupees will be granted to him. He has performed the duty of native agent for nearly four months entirely to my satisfaction, and was, prior to that period, attached to me for nearly three. When I state that since I have been in charge he has had to draft about 1,500 native letters, besides his other duties, and that I have occasionally required his services in addition to this, after office hours, when they have always been most cheerfully rendered, I trust the sum I have suggested will not be considered more than sufficient remuneration, and it may, I imagine, be recovered from the salary of the native agent, which is in deposit.

(True extract.)

(signed) *D. Blane*, Political Agent.

This is to certify that the bearer, Bugwunlall Mudonjee, has been attached to me, as my head carcoon for nearly three years, and I have known him whilst acting in the Political Agent's kucherry, for his nephew, one of the moozmoodars, for several more; he is a very intelligent, willing, and hard-working man, reads and writes quickly, and has an excellent memory; he is also possessed of considerable local knowledge in this province; is a very good man of business, and has, as far as I have been able to ascertain, patience and good temper in dealing with the people; I have therefore very great pleasure in giving him this note of recommendation, and shall be sincerely happy to hear of his gradual advancement. He possesses what I trust will be considered some claim to promotion, from having at different times whilst I have been in charge of this agency conducted for several months the whole native business of this office on a most insufficient salary.

Rajcote, 5 December 1839. (signed) *W. Lang*,
Assistant Political Agent.

From the date of Captain Lang's departure, 5th December 1838, with but little interruption up to the present time, Bhugwunlall Muddunjee has been attached to me as my head carcoon, and I have pleasure in certifying that he has given me very great satisfaction by the willing and efficient discharge of his duties. His local knowledge is considerable; his acquaintance with proceedings of current business very extensive, and his intelligence great.

During the period above-mentioned, with the exception of a few weeks, I have been virtually in the situation of first Assistant Political Agent.

Rajkoe, 14 December 1839. (signed) *Henry Aston*,
Acting Assistant Political Agent.

I hereby certify that Bhugwunlall, employed in the Political Agent's establishment of Katteewar, has served under me for a few months, and that I have a very high opinion of his efficiency as a public servant.

(signed) *G. L. G. Jacob*,
Rajcote, 27 March 1840. First Assistant Political Agent.

(True copies.)

(signed) D. Blane, Political Agent.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

From *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to the Political Agent in Katteewar.

No. 1746.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, with enclosures, dated the 28th March last, No. 14, and to inform you that, under the circumstances therein stated, the Honourable the Governor in Council is pleased to confirm your nomination of Bhugwunlall Mudonjee, as native agent to the Rajkote agency.

I have, &c.
(signed) *L. R. Reid*,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 4 May 1840.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation; 20 May 1840.

No. 2091.

From *D. Blane*, Esq., Political Agent at Katteewar, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour, as called for in the second paragraph of your letter, No. 2100, of the 23d ultimo, to submit a statement of deposits, including the items of unadjusted salary, which I conceive to come within the tenor of the sanction conveyed in the same despatch, and to request the authority of the Government for the disposal of the balance as therein proposed.

2. In the present stage of the question I will not venture to offer any remarks in the case of Chotum Lal; but, on the grounds of his acquittal by the Government, I assume it to be the desire of the Honourable the Governor in Council that he should receive the consideration of a person who has been subjected to great loss and affliction, in consequence of charges which have not been proved. I accordingly beg leave to recommend that he be allowed the salary of his late situation up to the 31st ultimo, with such deduction only as is necessary for the remuneration of the persons who have performed the duties in the interim.

3. With reference to his future employment, he has solicited my intervention to obtain for him the permission of Government to retire upon the usual scale of pension, in preference to the acceptance of an inferior situation to that which he has held for so many years; and I trust this indulgence may be granted to him, in consideration of his long and meritorious services and high character previous to the late accusations. In the event of the Government compliance with this proposal, I shall hereafter submit the requisite papers, according to the prescribed form.

4. The extra duty performed by Mr. Gillies, and the commendation bestowed upon him by my predecessor and Captain Jacob, who has since been in charge of the agency, would, I think, have entitled him to the full difference between the allowances drawn by him and the salary of the native agent, during the vacancy of that situation; but as I have deemed it a measure of justice to recommend a different disposal of the arrears, the reward proposed to be granted to him has been fixed with reference to the available balance remaining to the credit of the fund.

5. As regards the Moonshee Looft Ali Khan, it would appear that a proposal by my predecessor to allow him the full salary of native agent from the 26th July 1836, to the middle of October 1837, was not acceded to by Government; but as the allowance of 100 rupees per mensem paid to him while actually employed, previous to his suspension, is still an outstanding balance in the accounts of the office, I would solicit permission to adjust it in the manner now submitted for sanction.

I have, &c.
(signed) *D. Blane*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar, Political Agent's Office,
Rajcote, 21 January 1840.

STATEMENT of Sums to be carried to the "Fine Fund" under the sanction contained in the Government Letter No. 2100, of the 21st December 1839.

	Rs.	a.	p.
"Fine Fund" deposit, consisting of fine levied from the members of the establishment and from vukeels, &c.	688	12	2
Pay for January 1836 of the assistant to the sheristidar in the judicial department, vacated on the promotion of Venayuk Row Mahdoo Row	40	–	–
Pay from the 1st February to the 15th April 1836, at 30 rupees per mensem, left vacant on the promotion of Hurreebhy Bhogylall to the situation of Vinayuk Row Mahdoo Row, in the judicial department	75	–	–
Pay from the 1st May to the 15th June 1836 of the situation of Gopal Row Mahdoo Row on the Jubtee establishment, left vacant in consequence of his suspension for bribery and corruption, at 50 rupees per mensem	125	–	–
Pay for June, July, August, and September 1839, at 60 rupees per mensem, of the English clerk in the judicial department, left vacant on the promotion of Rageha Domotherjee to the situation of head clerk on the agency establishment	240	–	–
An allowance of 15 rupees per mensem, granted from the Jubtee establishment to Ragoba Damothorjee, discontinued on his promotion, on the 1st June, to the head clerkship, but subsequently, on the 1st October 1839, granted to Mr. Croly, the English clerk on the Jubtee establishment,* for June, July, August and September			
Pay of Chotum Lall Bapoobaee, native agent, from 27th July 1836 to 31st July 1837, at 300 rupees per mensem, carried to the credit of Government in the cash account for August 1837, as per audit, dated 27th June 1837	(a) 3,648	6	2
Pay of Chotum Lall Bapoobaee, native agent, from 1st August 1837 to 31st December 1839, carried monthly to the credit of Government	(a) 8,700	–	–
Pay of Carcoon Mahdoo Row Narrain, from 1st February 1838 to 30th September 1839, at 50 rupees per mensem, carried monthly to the credit of Government	(a) 1,000	–	–
Pay of Mehta Munguljee Roopsee on the Treasury establishment, for February and March 1838, at 20 rupees per mensem, carried monthly to the credit of Government	(a) 40	–	–
Rs.	14,617	2	4

	Rs.	a.	p.
Paid Mahdoo Row Narrain his pay, at 50 rupees per mensem, from 1st February to 3d December 1838, as sanctioned by Government under date 2d August 1839, and charged in the cash account for September following	504	13	5
PROPOSED DISBURSEMENT:			
Chotum Lal Bapoobhaee, two-thirds of his salary in deposit, as per contra	8,232	4	–
Moonshee Lootfali Khan and Bugwun Lall, the remaining one-third, or 100 rupees per mensem, a portion of which has been advanced	4,116	2	–
Present to Mr. Gillies for the extra duty performed by him	1,000	–	–
	13,853	3	5
Balance in hand	763	14	11
Rs.	14,617	2	4

* It being a portion of the salary fixed for the office he held, viz., 45 rupees per month, altogether.

Remarks.—The items marked (*a*) having been carried to the credit of Government instead of held in deposit, an express sanction is requisite for their being again debited in the accounts.

Kattewar Political Agent's Office,
Rajcote, 21 January 1840.

(signed) *D. Blane*, Political Agent.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

No. 2092.

MEMORANDUM by the Secretary to Government in the Political Department.

1. CHOTUM LAL BAPPOOBHOY, the individual alluded to in the 2d and 3d paragraphs of this letter, was formerly head native agent in the office of the Political Agent, suspended on the 27th July 1836, in consequence of suspicions that officer entertained of Chotum Lal having received certain bribes, and he has not since that period been re-employed by Government.

2. On the 12th October 1836, Mr. Erskine submitted the result of his inquiries into the charges against Chotum Lal.

3. On a review of the proceedings submitted by Mr. Erskine, Government resolved that Chotum Lal should be dismised from his situation, on account of the very strong, if not conclusive suspicions, which attach to him of his being guilty of the charges brought against him, but in consideration of the possible doubt which existed of his innocence, Government did not deem it expedient to adopt the recommendation made by Mr. Erskine, of dismissing him with disgrace; and Government determined to postpone, for future consideration, the propriety or otherwise of hereafter employing him elsewhere, in some inferior situation.

4. At the solicitation of Chotum Lal, a re-investigation of his case was, in March 1839, confided to Mr. Giberne, the Judicial Commissioner for Guzerat; and in consequence of his report being favourable to that individual, he was, under date the 22 May 1839, informed that his conduct was still open to strong suspicion; but that as he had been acquitted of the charges which had been preferred against him, he would be permitted to hold any other situation, under the British Government, in any other part of its territories, but that he could not be reinstated in his late office in Katteewar.

5. On the 9th June 1839, Chotum Lal presented a petition to Government, from which the following is an extract:

"The order for my suspension was issued on the 27th July 1836, from which date up to this time I have not received my pay, the amount of which has been held in deposit in the Treasury, until the removal of the suspicions against me. As these suspicions have now been cleared up, I beg to submit that the amount of my salary should be paid to me. At the same time, I request that Government will inform me whence I should receive my salary in future."

6. In reply, Chotum Lal was informed, on the 17th October last, that "the circumstances of his case are such as to have rendered it necessary that he should be removed from his situation in the office of the Political Agent at Rajcote; and that having incurred this disqualification, and been properly removed from employment in that office, he can have no claim to salary or pay until he obtains another situation."

7. In the petition above alluded to, Chotum Lal requested that Government would confer on him some other situation; in regard to which Captain Jacob, then in charge of the Political Agent's office, was, on the 17th October 1839 requested to communicate the circumstances of Chotum Lal's case to the Revenue Commissioner, with an intimation that Government would be glad if employment could be found for him as commavisdar, or in some other similar office in Guzerat; an arrangement, it was observed, which it appeared to Government might the more readily be effected, if a suitable person for the office of native agent in Kattywar could be selected from among the native officers in revenue employ in that province.

8. In the letter from Mr. Blane, now circulated, that gentleman observes that he will not venture to offer any remarks in the case of Chotum Lal, "but that, on the grounds of his acquittal by Government, he assumes it to be the desire of the Honourable the Governor in Council that he should receive the consideration of a person who has been subjected to great loss and affliction, in

consequence of charges which have not been proved;" and accordingly begs leave to recommend that Chotum Lal be allowed the salary of his late situation up to the 31st December 1839, with such deduction only as is necessary for the remuneration of the persons who have performed the duties in the interim.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

9. With reference to Chotum Lal's future employment, Mr. Blane states that that individual has solicited his intervention to obtain for him the permission of Government to retire upon the usual scale of pension, in preference to the acceptance of an inferior situation to that which he has held for so many years; and adds that he (Mr. Blane) trusts that this indulgence may be granted to Chotum Lal, in consideration of his long and meritorious services and high character previous to the late accusations.

10. The Moonshee Looft Ali has, under the orders of Government issued to Mr. Erskine, the late political agent in Kattewar, under date 19th March 1839, been dismissed from the service of Government, in consequence of his participation in the late conspiracy at Limree. Mr. Erskine had no authority from Government to appropriate to this individual any portion of Chotum Lal's salary; and a recommendation made by that officer, in favour of assigning to Looft Ali the whole of Chotum Lal's pay, from the 27th July 1836 to the middle of October 1837, was negatived at the time. It now appears, however, that Mr. Erskine allowed Looft Ali to draw a sum of 100 rupees per mensem out of Chotam Lal's pay, during a period of nearly 15 months; namely, from the 27th July 1836 to the middle of October 1837.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Secretary to Government.

4 March 1840.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Farish.* No. 2093.

IN regard to Chotum Lal, the political agent, should, I think, be furnished with copy of the reply returned to that individual of 17th October last, and informed that Government see no ground for altering that resolution.

I conceive the application for pension to be granted him cannot be complied with.

The unauthorised payment of the 100 rupees per mensem to the Moonshee Looft Ali, from 27th July 1836 till the middle of October 1837, should be placed as a debit against Mr. Erskine, till he may be able to afford an explanation of his having allowed the money to be paid him, when, from the way in which the moonshee was blameably concerned in the loan transaction, it must have been plain that Government never could sanction his employment as native agent.

I see no objection to granting Mr. Gillies 1,000 rupees, as recommended, in remuneration for his extra duties,

The amounts marked (*a*) in the statement accompanying Mr Blane's letter, appear to have been correctly carried to the credit of Government.

(signed) *J. Farish.*

9 April 1840.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Anderson.* No. 2094.

I DO not consider Chotumlal entitled, in justice, to pay during his suspension; his conduct was found to be strongly suspicious, and therefore I do not consider him to be a person who has undeservedly been subjected to loss and affliction.

(signed) *G. W. Anderson.*

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Board.

No. 2095.

I AGREE, but I think the Revenue Commissioner should again be applied to give Chotumlal employment in his jurisdiction, according to the original decision of Government; the 1,000 rupees to Mr. Gillies may be paid to him, but the balance of the deposit should be credited to Government.

(signed) *J. R. Carnac.*
J. Farish.
G. W. Anderson.

No. 2096.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *D. Blane*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 21st January last, No. 30, soliciting the authority of Government to divide amongst some members of your office establishments, certain sums of undrawn salary which have been carried to the fine fund; requesting instructions as to the amount of salary to be allowed to Chotum Lal Bappabhoy, formerly head native agent in your office, during the period he was lately under suspension; and submitting an application from that individual for permission to retire on a pension from the service of Government.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you, that the Honourable the Governor in Council is pleased to sanction the grant of 1,000 rupees (one thousand) to your head clerk, Mr. Gillies, as remuneration for his extra duties during the vacancy in the office of native agent, and directs that the balance of the deposit be credited to Government.

3. With regard to Chotum Lal, I am desired to inform you, that the Honourable the Governor in Council sees no grounds for altering the decision which was communicated to him on the 27th October last; viz., "that the circumstances of his case were of that nature as to render it necessary that he should be removed from his situation in the office of the Political Agent in Kattywar; and that having incurred such a disqualification, and been properly removed from employment in that office, he can have no claim on Government for salary or pay until he obtains another situation." The Governor in Council cannot agree in your opinion that he has been undeservedly subjected to loss and affliction.

4. I am also desired to inform you, that Chotum Lal's application for a pension cannot be complied with.

5. The Moonshee Looft Ali, to whom, in the last para. of your letter, you recommend that a certain portion of the native agent's salary should be awarded, was, in pursuance of orders issued to your predecessor, Mr. Erskine, under date the 19th March 1839, dismissed from the service of Government, in consequence of his participation in the late conspiracy at Leemree. Mr. Erskine had no authority from Government to appropriate to this individual any portion of Chotum Lal's salary, and a recommendation made by that gentleman in favour of assigning to him the whole pay of native agent from the 27th July 1836 to the middle of October 1837, was negatived at that time.

6. Under these circumstances, the Governor in Council directs, that the unauthorised payment made by Mr. Erskine to Looft Ali, of the sum of 100 rupees per mensem, from the 27th July 1836 to the middle of October 1837, be placed as a debit against that gentleman until he afford an explanation of his having allowed this money to be paid to the moonshee; as it must have been

been evident to Mr. Erskine, from the very blameable conduct of that individual in the Limree loan transaction, that Government would not under any circumstances have sanctioned his employment as native agent. Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

7. The Governor in Council approves of your having carried to the credit of Government the amounts marked (*a*) in the statement which accompanied your letter.

8. I am, on this occasion, desired to request that you will be pleased again to address the Revenue Commissioner on the subject of giving Chotum Lal employment in his jurisdiction.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Bombay Castle, 19 May 1840. Secretary to Government.

No. 1,000 and 1,001.

An extract, para. 5, of the letter from Mr. Blane, dated 21st January last; copy of the statement therewith forwarded; and paras. 2, 3. 5, 6, and 7 of the reply this day returned to that communication, to be sent to the accountant-general and civil auditor for information.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 10 June 1840.

From *D. Blane*, Esq., Political Agent at Katteewar, to *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay. No. 2425.

Sir,

Pending a reply to my references, No. 30 of 21st January, and No. 134 of 28 March last, the salary of the native agent in this establishment was not actually disbursed; and my directions to place it in deposit under the authority of the Government sanction, dated 23 December 1839, No. 2100, being misunderstood by my accountant, the salary for the months of January and February has been omitted to be charged in the public accounts. I would, therefore, solicit permission to rectify this error by a debit of the salary for the said months in arrears, for the purpose of remunerating those by whom the duties have been performed.

I have, &c.
(signed) *D. Blane*, Political Agent.
Kattiwar Political Agent's Office,
Rajcote, 12 May 1840.

From *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *D. Blane*, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 12th ultimo, No. 162; and, in reply, to refer you to the second para. of my communication dated the 19th ultimo, No. 999, conveying the authority of Government for the grant of a sum of 1,000 rupees to your head clerk, Mr. Gillies, for extra duties performed by him during the vacancy in the office of native agent, and instructions for the balance of the deposit to be credited to Government.

I have, &c.
(signed) *L. R. Reid*,
Bombay Castle, 9 June 1840. Chief Secretary to Government

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 24 June 1840.

No. 2689.

From *D. Blane*, Esquire, Political Agent at Katteewar, to *L. R. Reid*, Esquire, Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

1. I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 999, of the 19th instant, and to solicit instructions on the following points, which may not have been stated with sufficient clearness in my former reference :—

1st. In the statement submitted by me, certain items are shown as being at the credit of the Fine Fund; and others, which had been carried to the account of Government are recommended to be charged and appropriated to the said fund, under the sanction of your letter of the 21st January last; and certain disbursements are proposed to be made out of the sums so credited. In reply, a payment of 1,000 rupees to Mr. Gillies is sanctioned, and the balance directed to be credited to Government, which leaves me in doubt as to the intention of Government with reference to the disposal of the component items of the above fund.

2d. The former decision regarding Chotum Lal appeared to relate to the possible contingency of his remaining for a considerable time without employment, not to his claim to some consideration while under suspension, and previous to his situation being permanently conferred upon another. As the Government, in sanctioning the credit to the Fine Fund of undrawn salary appeared to recognise the principle that the fixed expenditure on that head might fairly be appropriated to remuneration for the performance of the duties, I confidently anticipated that the latitude thus afforded would have been allowed greater weight in favour of my proposal, which contained nothing beyond the distribution of the pay of the fixed establishment. If worthy of future employment, why, also, I would observe, should so old a servant be deemed unworthy of a pension; and to insist upon the unwilling acceptance by him of a minor office, would not, I venture to represent, be likely to tend to the advantage of Government. As Chotum Lal's late situation has now, however, been permanently filled up, he can no longer be said to have any connexion with this office; and, if approved of by the Government, I would therefore propose to refer him to the Presidency for the further cognisance of his case.

3rd. The advance to the Moonshee Looft Ali was pay for active duties previous to his having incurred the displeasure of Government, and remained unadjusted merely in consequence of the confusion then existing in the office, which caused my predecessor to overlook in some instances the requisite forms for obtaining the sanction of Government. But as I cannot suppose that the disbursement would have been disallowed if reported at the time, the method now proposed for bringing it to account would seem to be unconnected with the question of the moonshee's subsequent misconduct; and if the assigned portion of the undrawn salary be not so disposed of, the amount in the statement is still justly due to Bugwan Lal, who, while Mr. Gillies was performing the duties of native agent, as regards superintendence, was loaded with the principal part of the business in the Goozeerattee department.

2. Under these explanations, I would hope that some modification of the decision conveyed in your letter under reply, may be acceded to by the Government, and that I shall be excused in awaiting their future orders previous to carrying it into execution.

I have, &c.

(signed) *D. Blane*,
Political Agent, Katteewar.

Katteewar Political Agent's Office,
Rajcote, 30 May 1840.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Board.

No. 2690.

I SEE no reason for altering our former decision, namely, that after paying 1,000 rupees to Mr. Gillies, the residue should be carried to the credit of Government, for this is not a case in which the arrears should be carried to the Fine Fund.

(signed) *J. R. Carnac.*
J. Farish.
G. W. Anderson.

13 June 1840.

No. 2691.

From *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *D. Blane*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 30th ultimo, and to inform you that the Honourable the Governor in Council is not aware of any reason for altering the decision communicated to you in my letter dated the 19th of the same month, namely, that after paying to your head clerk, Mr. Gillies, the sum of 1,000 rupees from the account of the undrawn salary of a portion of your late establishment, the residue should be carried to the credit of Government.

I have, &c.

(signed) *L. R. Reid,*
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 24 June 1840.

No. 3181.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 22 July 1840.

From *D. Blane*, Esq., Political Agent at Katteewar, to *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I REGRET to acquaint you that a melancholy accident which occurred on Sunday last, has deprived me of the services of my native accountant, Govind Row Nurhur.

2. He was re-crossing the Rajcote River from a temple of Muhadeo, close to the walls of the town, when a flood came down and swept him away. The force of the current prevented the spectators from affording him any assistance, and it was not until the day following that his corpse was recovered at a place about seven coss down the stream.

3. The deceased was a most deserving person, and had been 28 years in the Honourable Company's service. I have nominated his brother, Wittul Row Nurhur, who has also served in this office for about six years, and is well qualified for the performance of the duties to the vacant situation; but as the salary is 100 rupees per mensem, it is necessary for me to obtain the confirmation of the Government, which I would accordingly beg leave to solicit.

I have, &c.

(signed) *D. Blane,*
Political Agent.

Katteewar, Political Agent's Office,
Rajkote, 1 July 1840.

No. 3182.

From *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to the Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 1st instant, No. 208, and to inform you that the Honourable the Governor in Council is

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

pleased to sanction the appointment of Wittul Row Nurhur, as native accountant to the Rajcote agency, in the room of Govind Row Nurhur, deceased.

I have, &c.
(signed) *L. R. Reid,*
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 18 July 1840.

No. 1588 and 1589.

Copy of the above letter, and of the communication therein mentioned, to be sent for the information of the Accountant-general and Civil Auditor.

(signed) *L. R. Reid,*
Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 3264.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 29 July 1840.

From *D. Blane*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar, to *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

In reply to your letter, No. 1180 of the 9th instant, I beg leave to submit that the previous despatch, No. 999 of the 19th May, therein quoted, relates to an application made by me on the subject of some old deposits and arrears of pay of several years' standing, and quite distinct from the subject of my letter of the 12th ultimo.

2. Since my arrival here, I have considered myself authorised by the Government letters, No. 1931 and 2100 of 21st November and 23d December last, to replace the establishment on an efficient footing, by filling up the vacancies; and the failure to debit the salary of native agent for the months of January and February was a mere omission of the accountant, the allowance having been appropriated, though, for the reasons already explained, the nomination had not been formally submitted for the confirmation of Government.

3. Under this explanation, I would therefore again solicit permission to rectify the mistake which has occurred in the preparation of the cash accounts, through the omission above noticed.

I have, &c.
(signed) *D. Blane,*
Political Agent.

Katteewar Pol. Agent's Office,
Rajcote, 17 June 1840.

No. 3265.

From *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *D. Blane*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 17th ultimo, No. 198, and to inform you that, under the explanation therein offered, the Honourable the Governor in Council is pleased to sanction the salary of the native agent to the Rajcote agency, for the months of January and February last, being distributed amongst those by whom the duties of that situation were performed during the period in question.

I have, &c.
(signed) *L. R. Reid,*
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 25 July 1840.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

No. 1931 and 1932.

Copies of Mr. Blane's letters, dated the 12th May and 17th June, No. 162 and 198 of 1840, together with copy of the reply this day returned to the latter communication, to be sent for the information of the Accountant-general and Civil Auditor, with reference to the documents noted in the margin;* copies of which were forwarded to these officers on the 19th May last, No. 1000 and 1001.

* *See* below.

(signed) *L. R. Reid,*
Chief Secretary to Government.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 16 September 1840.

No. 4091.

From *D. Blane*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar, to *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

1. I regret to be under the necessity of troubling you with a further reference on the subject of your letter No. 1317 of the 24th ultimo, in consequence of certain payments, which, according to the decision therein conveyed, I find to remain unadjusted.

2. In the item of *Rs.* 4,116. 2, proposed to be paid to the Moonshee Looft Ali Khan and Bugwan Lal, of which a portion is noted in the account forwarded with my letter of 21st January last, to have been advanced; I included the additional remuneration intended to be given to the latter, as well as the sum already paid to him, amounting to *Rs.* 1,173. 1, as shown in the amended statement now submitted.

3. From the decision above referred to, I understand that the Government are unwilling to accede to any payment of arrears beyond the amount sanctioned for Mr. Gillies, or to allow the adjustment of the salary granted to the moonshee as proposed by me; but the payments to Bugwan Lal, fixed at so low a scale compared with the duties performed by him, are not, I conceive, intended to be refunded.

4. On this head I would beg leave to refer to the applications of Captain Lang and Mr. Erskine, dated the 22d March and 31st December 1837, and the Government reply of the 23d March following, intimating generally that their decision on the disposal of Chotum Lal's pay would depend upon the result of that person's appeal.

5. I would, therefore, solicit the sanction of Government to the revised account now submitted; and, in conclusion, beg leave to add, that an extract of your letter of the 19th May will be forwarded to the Revenue Commissioner; and the purport of the observations on the case of Chotum Lal therein conveyed be communicated to that individual, as the decision of Government upon his application for arrears of salary, and admission to the pension list.

I have, &c.

(signed) *D. Blane,*
Pol. Agent in Katteewar.

Katteewar Pol. Agent's Office, Rajcote,
6 July 1840.

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* Extract para. 5, of a letter from Mr. Blane, dated 21st January 1840, with enclosure. Extract paras. 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7 of the Government letter to Mr. Blane, dated 17th May 1840.

REVISED ACCOUNT of Sums in Deposit, and Arrears of undrawn Salary in the Office of the Political Agent in Katteewar submitted for the Sanction of the Government.

Sums in Deposit:	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Fine fund deposit, consisting of fines levied from the members of the establishment, and from vakeels, &c. - -	688	12	2			
Pay for January 1836 of the assistant to the sheristidar on the Judicial Department, vacated on the promotion of Venaik Row Mahdeo Row -	40	–	–			
Pay from 1st February to the 15th April 1836, at 30 rupees per mensem, left vacant on the promotion of Hurreebhoy Bhogylall to the situation of Venayuk Row Mahdeo Row in the Judicial Department -	75	–	–			
Pay from the 1st May to the 15th June 1836, of the situation of Gopal Row Mahoo Rao, on the Jubtee establishment, left vacant in consequence of his suspension for bribery and corruption, at 50 rupees per mensem -	125	–	–			
Pay for June, July, August, and September 1839, at 60 rupees per mensem, of the English clerk in the Judicial Department, left vacant on the promotion of Ragooba Damotherjee to the situation of head clerk on the Agency establishment - - -	240	–	–			
An allowance of 15 rupees per mensem granted from the Jubtee establishment to Ragooba Damotherjee, discontinued on his promotion, on the 1st June, to the head clerkship, but subsequently, on the 1st October 1839, granted to Mr. Crowly, the English clerk on the Jubtee establishment * for June, July, August, and September	60	–	–			
Already credited to Government:						
Pay for Chotum Lall Bappabhye, native agent, from 27th July 1836 to 31st July 1837, at 300 rupees per mensem, carried to the credit of Government in the cash account for August 1837, as per audit, dated 27th June 1837 -	3,648	6	2			
Pay of ditto, ditto, from 1st August 1837 to 31st December 1839, carried monthly to the credit of Government -	8,700	–	–			
				13,577	2	4
Carried forward - - - *Rs.*				13,577	2	4

	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Advance to Bugwanlal Moddarjee in May 1835, by Capt. Lang, for acting as native agent under him for several months - -	500	–	–			
Paid ditto, for acting as carcoon to the first assistant, from 6th June to 3d December 1838, at 30 rupees per mensem - - - -	177	14	5			
Paid ditto, for ditto, ditto, from 4th December 1838 to 30th September 1839, at 50 rupees per month - - -	495	2	7			
TOTAL paid out of the Deposit, as per contra - - - - - -				1,173	1	–
Paid to Mahdoo Row Narrain his pay, at 50 rupees per mensem, from 1st February to 3d December 1838, as sanctioned by Government, under date 2d August 1839, and charged in the cash account for September following - - - - -				504	13	5
Present to Mr. Gillies, sanctioned in the Government letter of 19th May 1840 - - - - - -				1,000	–	–
GRAND TOTAL - - - *Rs.*				2,677	14	5
Carried forward - - - *Rs.*				2,677	14	5

* It being a portion of the salary fixed for the office he holds, viz. 45 rupees a month altogether.

REVISED ACCOUNT of Sums in Deposit and Arrears of undrawn Salary, &c.—*continued.*

		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
Brought forward - - -		13,577 2 4	Brought forward - - -	2,677 14 5
Pay of Carcoon Madoo Row Narrain, from 1st February 1838 to 30th September 1839, at 30 rupees per mensem, carried monthly to the credit of Government - - -	1,000 – –			
Pay of Mehta Muhguljee Roopsee on the Treasury establishment, for February and March 1838, at 20 rupees per mensem, carried monthly to the credit of Government	40 – –		Balance in favour of Government, already carried to their credit -	11,939 3 11
		1,040 – –		
	Rs.	14,617 2 4	TOTAL, as per contra - - *Rs.*	14,617 2 4

N.B.—The salary advanced to the Moonshee Looft Ali Khan remains to be adjusted by Mr. Erskine as directed in the sixth para. of Government letter of 19th May 1840, 1,880 rupees.

Katteewar Political Agent's Office,
Rajcote, 6 July 1840.

(signed) *D. Blane,*
Political Agent.

From *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to the Assistant in Charge of the Office of Political Agent in Kattewar. No. 4092.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Blane's letter, dated the 6th ultimo, soliciting further instructions, with regard to certain undrawn salary of a portion of the late establishment of the Katteewar agency.

2. In reply, I am desired to communicate to you the sanction of the Honourable the Governor in Council to the revised account now submitted, as far as regards Bugwan Lall, who need not, under the circumstances reported, be called upon to refund the amount which has been advanced to him. You will, therefore, be pleased to inform the Pay and Audit Department of the date on which he assumed charge of the duties of native agent, and that on which he was relieved.

3. Although mention is still made of Chotum Lall in the revised statement above alluded to, the Governor in Council desires me to particularly observe that the former decision of Government in the case of that individual is in no way whatever affected, and that the present modification only relates to Bugwan Lall.

4. The Pay Departments have been informed of the cheque of 1,880 rupees, on account of salary unauthorizedly paid by Mr. Erskine, the late Political Agent to the Moonshee Looft Ali, with instructions to recover the amount from that gentleman, on his return to India.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle,
14 September 1840.

(signed) *L. R. Reid,*
Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 2023 and 2024 of 1840.

COPY of Mr. Blane's letter, and of its enclosure, dated the 6th ultimo, together with a transcript of the above reply, to be forwarded to the Accountant-general and the Civil Auditor, for information and guidance.

(signed) *L. R. Reid,*
Chief Secretary to Government.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 25 February 1841.

No. 1204.

To the Right Honourable Sir *James Rivett Carnac*, Bart., President and Governor in Council.

The humble Petition of *Chotumlal Bapabhayee*, Inhabitant of Ahmedabad.

Most respectfully showeth,

That in the first order of Government, dated 22d May 1839, it is stated that the suspicions entertained by Mr. Erskine, the then Political Agent at Rajcote, in the matter of the fourth charge preferred against your petitioner, were removed by the result of the examination held by Mr. Giberne, the Judicial Commissioner, and that the former order of Government, which incapacitated your petitioner from holding any public office, was cancelled, but that Government could not confer on him the same situation which he held at Rajcote. On the receipt of this order, your petitioner thought it prudent not to serve under a person who was inclined to ruin him. Afterwards, on the 9th June 1839, he sent a petition to Government, requesting to have the arrears of his wages paid, and to know what appropriate situation would be conferred on him. In reply to this petition, your petitioner received a letter, under date the 17th of October 1839, from Mr. Secretary Boyd, stating that he was deprived of his situation under the Political Agent for certain reasons, and thereby he had lost his claim for the arrears of his pay until he was re-employed. On the receipt of this answer, he presented another petition, dated 30th November 1839, to Government, stating that after the strict and impartial trial held by Mr. Giberne, if Government was not satisfied as to his honesty and uprightness, he would most willingly stand another trial. He then proceeded to Rajcote, expecting to receive there a Government order, addressed to the Political Agent, directing him to convince your petitioner of the justness of the grounds for which he was dismissed from the service. But on his arrival at Rajcote, when he paid a visit to Mr. Jacob, the Assistant Political Agent, that gentleman said to him that, though the result of the inquiry instituted by Mr. Giberne fully cleared him of all the charges and suspicions raised by Mr. Erskine, yet he could not be restored to his former situation, which would be conferred on a deserving person from the Revenue Commissioners' department, and the vacancy occurring by such arrangement might be filled by him. The same gentleman told him also, that though Government would not pay him the whole of the arrears of his salary, yet he might get a moiety, or thereabout. To this your petitioner replied, that he saw no reasons why he should receive a moiety only. Mr. Jacob then advised him to make an application to Government on the subject, and told him that Mr. Blane, who was expected at Rajcote in the course of four or five days, would do what was just and proper. Accordingly, on the arrival of Mr. Blane at Rajcote, your petitioner took the earliest opportunity to see that gentleman and represent his case to him, when he advised him not to put himself and Government to any further trouble, but to apply directly for pension. Your petitioner then, thinking it prudent to be guided by the advice, made an application to that effect, and also for the arrears of pay, and waited in Rajcote for eight months expecting an answer. But when he found that there was no likelihood of getting an answer, he went to Ahmedabad on the 1st of September, with the intention of coming down to Bombay. Meanwhile, Mr. Jacob received a letter from Mr. Vibart, the Revenue Commissioner, addressed to your petitioner, but he not being present there, it was sent to him at Ahmedabad. The object of Mr. Vibart in writing the letter, was to know whether or not your petitioner was willing to accept a situation of mamlutdar, on a salary of 72 rupees per month, namely, that of Paneera. In reply to this letter, your petitioner wrote to Mr. Vibart, on the 6th September, stating that he was sorry to refuse the offer on account of its being inadequate to his rank, but that he hoped Government would soon have mercy on him, to pay the arrears, and to confer on him a situation similar to that which he formerly held.

At present your humble petitioner has come down to Bombay, and begs to acquaint your Excellency that though he dare not say anything against the pleasure of Government as conveyed in their order, dated the 17th October 1839, intimating that he was dismissed from the service for certain reasons, yet he respectfully

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

respectfully solicits your Excellency's full attention to, and consideration of, the following facts.

Observing several persons in Rajcote bent on his ruin, and trying every means to accomplish their base object, he presented a petition, dated 22d July 1836, to Government, containing a full explanation of the charges brought against him. Afterwards he sent another petition to Government, representing the oppressive and improper conduct of Mr. Erskine, who, having sent for him about midnight on the 26th of July 1836, suspended him next day from his duties, which obliged him to remain in Rajcote for 17 months doing nothing. During this long period nothing like inquiry took place. Your petitioner was then reduced to the necessity of coming down to Bombay, and to represent his case to Government personally. He spent nearly 12 months in Bombay, and on presenting another petition to the same effect, he was informed that Mr. Giberne had received orders to proceed to Rajcote to inquire into his case, and that he should go also to that city. On the arrival of Mr. Giberne at Rajcote, he commenced the examination of the case, when the witnesses that bore evidence regarding the Dasura village contradicted each other. Your petitioner believes that Government has been already informed of those proceedings from the report of Mr. Giberne, and therefore thinks that a repetition of the same would be only an unnecessary trouble to your Excellency.

While the above trial was going on, your petitioner lived at Rajcote, but his enemies fearing that he would become acquainted with their treacherous conduct, got him removed to Ahmedabad, and proclamation was issued that he, being a dishonest man, was expelled out of the town. Your petitioner then immediately, on the 18th June 1839, made a representation to Government of the unjust proceedings of his enemies.

After your petitioner was suspended from his duties, Mr. Erskine, at the instigation of his enemies, issued a proclamation inviting the inhabitants of the town to come forward and confess in the court if any of them had given a bribe to your petitioner. But when his enemies found that this plan did not succeed, they bribed some persons, and thereby induced them to make such false confessions as suited their purpose.

With regard to the Joonaghur case, his enemies took the same course which they followed in the former. The following is an outline of the proceedings:

When Captain Lang proceeded to Joonaghur to inquire into this case, they persuaded Shamjee Madowjee to give in writing a totally different version of what had happened. Afterwards, when Mr. Erskine took his way to the same town, Moonshee Lootfulla went before him carrying a letter of his, dated 25 May 1836, to the Nabob of that place. The purport of the letter was, that Moonshee Lodfula was sent by Mr. Erskine to his Highness, and that his Highness would extremely oblige him by paying regard to the directions of the moonshee, and that until the receipt of an answer, which was expected to be favourable, he would stop in Callyanagnum. Before stating anything further, your petitioner begs your Excellency to consider why Mr. Erskine should send such a letter.

When Mr. Giberne was appointed to examine the same case, your petitioner's enemies despatched some persons to gain his Highness to their side. This point is also for the consideration of your Excellency. Though your petitioner was at Rajcote for many days, nothing like regular trial took place. When the inquiry into the case of the Dusora village was going on, Jafferr and Savuyee were brought in the court after they were taken to Mr. Erskine's bungalow, and were desired by that gentleman to make such statements as would show the dishonesty of your petitioner. The whole trial was there conducted in a fraudulent manner, for which your petitioner feels more than he does for his own misery. The honest have been thus rendered dishonest, and the dishonest honest. If such treacherous persons were not at all punished, how is it possible that they would abstain from acting similarly in future?

Such is the brief outline of the whole case; and your petitioner most humbly requests that your Excellency in Council will be graciously pleased to consider the whole case minutely, and, if proper, to relieve a man who always discharged his duties by the principles of justice and humanity from the miseries to which he is reduced, and to issue orders for the payment of the arrears of his wages, and for conferring on him a situation similar to the one which he formerly enjoyed. This is the last prayer which he has to prefer, and fully expects that

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

your Excellency, whose fame for the observance of justice and all the principles of honour is far and widely spread in the whole Presidency, would be kind enough to bestow a due share of attention to this case, and thereby relieve your old and faithful servant from ruin.

Should your Honourable Board still have doubts of his honesty with which he conducted his past duties as Native Agent at Rajcote agency, which destroyed his claims for the arrears of pay, your petitioner earnestly begs that a further trial of his case may be ordered to be held, that he may have an opportunity of clearing the doubts of your Honourable Board, as he is quite certain that nothing but totally false and invented charges were filed against him by Mr. Erskine, at the instigation of his enemies. In conclusion, he begs to add that if his request be granted, he would be under everlasting obligations to your Excellency.

And, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(signed) *Chotumlal Bapabhoyee.*

Bombay, 20 November 1840.

No. 1205.

MEMORANDUM by the Political Secretary to Government.

1. THE petitioner, Chotum Lal Bappabhoy, was formerly head native agent in the office of the Political Agent in Kattywar. Chotum Lal was suspended by Mr. Erskine, the late Political Agent, on the 27th July 1836, in consequence of suspicions that officer entertained of his having received certain bribes, and he has not since that period been re-employed by Government.

2. Government, on a review of the proceedings submitted by Mr. Erskine, in regard to Chotum Lal's case, issued orders, in November 1837, for that individual to be dismissed from his situation, on account of the very strong, if not conclusive, suspicions which attached to him of his being guilty of the charges brought against him; but in consideration of the possible doubt which existed of his innocence, Government did not deem it expedient to adopt a recommendation made by Mr. Erskine of dismissing him from the public service with disgrace, and determined to postpone for future consideration the propriety, or otherwise, of hereafter employing him elsewhere in some inferior situation.

3. In March 1839, at the solicitation of Chotum Lal, a re-investigation of his case was confided to Mr. Giberne, the Judicial Commissioner for Guzerat, and the report of that gentleman being favourable to that individual, he was, under date the 22d May 1839, informed that his conduct was still open to strong suspicion; but that, as he had been acquitted of the charges which had been preferred against him, he would be permitted to hold any other situation under the British Government in any other part of its territories, but that he could not be reinstated in his late office in Kattywar.

4. Chotum Lal, in a petition dated the 9th June 1839, observed as follows:— "The order for my suspension was issued on the 27th July 1836, from which date up to this time I have not received my pay; the amount of which has been held in deposit in the Treasury, until the removal of the suspicions against me. As these suspicions have now been cleared up, I beg to submit that the amount of my salary should be paid to me; at the same time I request that Government will inform me whence I should receive my salary in future."

5. On the 17th October 1839, Chotum Lal was informed in reply, that the circumstances of his case are such as to have rendered it necessary that he should be removed from his situation in the office of the Political Agent at Rajcote, and that having incurred this disqualification, and been properly removed from employment in that office, he could have no claim to salary or pay from the date of his dismissal, until he might obtain another situation.

6. With reference to the above intimation to Chotum Lal, Mr. Blane, in a letter, dated the 21st January 1840, observed that he would not venture to offer any remarks in the case of Chotum Lal, "but that, on the grounds of his acquittal by Government, he assumed it to be the desire of the Honourable the Governor in Council, that he should receive the consideration of a person who has been subjected to great loss and affliction, in consequence of charges which have not been proved;" and accordingly begged leave to recommend that Chotum

Chotum Lal be allowed the salary of his late situation, from the date of his dismissal in November 1837, up to the 31st December 1839, with such deduction only as might be necessary for the remuneration of the persons who, in the interim, performed the duties of his situation.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

7. In reply, Mr. Blane was informed* that the decision of Government on the above point, communicated to Chotum Lal on the 17th October 1839, could not be disturbed, and that Government could not agree with that officer in the application of the allusion made by him to Chotum Lal having been unjustly and undeservedly subjected to loss and affliction.

* 19 May 1840.

8. Amongst other requests preferred by Chotum Lal, in his petition dated the 9th June 1839†, was one to the effect that Government would confer on him some other situation, in regard to which Captain Jacob, then in charge of the Political Agent's office, was, on the 17th October 1839, requested to communicate the circumstances of Chotum Lal's case to the Revenue Commissioner, with an intimation that Government would be glad if employment could be found for that individual, as commavisdar, or in some other similar office in Guzerat; an arrangement, it was observed, which it appeared to Government might the more readily be effected, if a suitable person for the office of native agent in Kattywar could be selected from among the native officers in Revenue employ in that province.

† *Vide* para. 4 of this summary.

9. With reference to Chotum Lal's proposed re-employment, Mr. Blane, in a letter dated the 21st January 1840, stated that that individual had solicited his intervention to obtain for him the permission of Government to retire upon the usual scale of pension, in preference to the acceptance of an inferior situation to that which he had held for so many years in Kattywar; and Mr. Blane, at the same time, expressed a hope that this indulgence would be granted to Chotum Lal, in consideration of his long and meritorious services, and high character, previous to the late accusations against him.

10. In reply, Mr. Blane was informed that Chotum Lal's application for a pension could not be complied with; and that officer was directed again to address the Revenue Commissioner on the subject of providing Chotum Lal with employment within the latter officer's jurisdiction.

11. About this time, a despatch was received from the Honourable the Court of Directors, in which they reviewed the proceedings which had been taken by Government, in the case of this individual, and stated that they considered his guilt to have been established, and directed that, if the expressed intention of giving him employment in some other situation should be acted upon, he should not be appointed to any but a subordinate situation. The following is an extract from this despatch:

"We now proceed to the results of the inquiry into the fact which was brought to your notice by Mr. Willoughby before he left the province, and subsequently investigated by Captain Lang and Mr. Erskine; viz., that a sum of money had been sent to Rajcote, by the Nawab of Joonaghur, for the purpose of bribing Mr. Willoughby, and certain natives on his establishment.

"The very efficient investigation which this matter underwent, fully established that the Nawab's servants, in league with a native named Gopal Rae, on the Political Agent's establishment, had induced the Nawab, in the hope of obtaining a favourable settlement of his dispute with the Seedees of Jafferabad, to send 31,000 rupees to Rajcote, to be put into the hands of Gopal Rae, and of which the Nawab was led to believe that 25,000 rupees were for Mr. Willoughby, 5,000 rupees for Mr. Willoughby's head native agent, Chotum Lal, and the remaining 1,000 rupees for Gopal Rae, himself: that Chotum Lal was privy to the fact, and would have received a portion of the bribe, but for the discovery of the plot, though you do not consider it entirely proved, is, by the evidence adduced, rendered to our minds almost certain.

"These individuals, Gopal Rae and Chotum Lal, having been put upon their defence, various other charges of corruption came in against them, and among others, the grave one was preferred against Chotum Lal of having participated in the gains of the robbery of the camels at Moonjpoor, for their share in which, two other natives on the agency establishment are now suffering imprisonment.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

The charges preferred against "Gopal Rae were established to such an extent as induced you to dismiss him from the service, and to declare him incompetent to serve the Government in any capacity. Those against Chotum Lal you considered as not so fully made out, and though he was dismissed from his situation, you consider him as not excluded from holding some other appointment under your Government; but we desire that, if he be employed at all, it be only in a subordinate situation."

12. Chotum Lal prefers three requests in his present petition:

1st. That he may be appointed to some situation similar to the one which he formerly held in Kattywar; namely, head native agent.

2d. That he may be allowed to draw the full pay of his former situation in Kattywar, from the date of his suspension in July 1836, up to such period as he may be appointed to some other situation; and,

3d. That should Government refuse a compliance with the above request, in consequence of the suspicions which at present attach to his character, a re-investigation may be ordered to be made into his whole case.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
21 December 1840. Secretary to Government.

No. 1206. MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Board.

I DO not see what can be done in the case of Chotum Lall, but to direct, under the former decision of Government, and the orders of the Court of Directors, tha the may be employed in a subordinate situation, not in the province of Kattywar. The Revenue Commissioner may therefore be directed to appoint him to the first vacant mamlutdarship.

The separate requests he makes with reference to his conduct and its re-investigation, as well as to his pay while under suspension, it is not in the power of this Government to entertain, under the general instructions by the Honourable Court.

(signed) *J. R. Carnac.*

No. 1207. Further MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Board.

I HAVE consulted the Board before I made the proposition that the portion of pay which was stopped from Chotum Lall, and is in deposit in the Treasury, should be returned to him. I consider, after the perusal of the papers, that it is on the whole a hard case, and now that we have authorised his re-employment, which is of itself a virtual acquittal, I think we can hardly do less than return to him the pay in deposit whilst he was suspended, which has not been appropriated.

6 January 1841. (signed) *J. R. Carnac.*

No. 1208 & 1209. From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to *Chottom Lall*, Bappabhaee, late Native Agent to the Rajkote Agency, Bombay.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your petition, dated the 20th November last, praying that you may be appointed to a suitable situation, similar to the one which you held in Katteewar, and that you may be allowed to draw the full salary of your former situation from the date of your suspension up to such period as you may be appointed to some other situation.

2. In reply, I am desired to signify to you, that under the orders of the Honourable the Court of Directors, Government is precluded from appointing you to a situation similar to the one which you held in Katteewar; but that as that authority has no objection to your being appointed to a subordinate situation, the Revenue Commissioner has been requested to appoint you to the first situation of mamlutdar which may become vacant.

3. With

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattawar.

3. With respect to your application to be permitted to draw the full salary of your former situation from the date of your suspension up to such period as you may be appointed to another situation, I am directed to acquaint you that the Honourable the Governor in Council cannot comply with your request, but that he is pleased to sanction the refund to you of the portion of the amount stopped from your pay while you were suspended, which is now in deposit in the treasury of the Katteewar Agency, and which has not been appropriated in any other way.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
24 February 1841.

No. 571 of 1841.

To *D. A. Blane*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

With reference to former correspondence regarding Chottum Lall Bappabhaee, late native agent of the Katteewar Agency, I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you copy of a petition from that individual, dated the 20th November last, and of my reply thereto of this day's date.

In forwarding these documents, I am instructed to authorise you to refund to Chottum Lall that portion of the amount stopped from his pay while he was suspended, which is now in deposit in your office, and which has not been appropriated in any other way.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
24 February 1841.

No. 572 and 573.

Copy of the above letter to be sent to the Accountant-general and the Civil Auditor for information and guidance.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

No. 574.

Resolution of Government in the Political Department.

Ordered, that an extract, para. 1, of the above minute by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Board, be transferred to the Revenue department, that the Revenue Commissioner may thence be instructed to appoint Chottum Lall Bappabhoy, late native agent of the Rajkote Agency, to the first situation of mamlutdar which may become vacant.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

24 February 1841.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 24 March 1841.

No. 1532.

To the Honourable Sir *James Rivett Carnac*, Bart., President and Governor in Council,

The humble Petition of *Chotumlal Bapabhayee*, Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, now residing in Bombay.

Respectfully showeth,

That if Government entertains any suspicions as to your petitioner's honesty from Mr. Erskine's letter, dated 2d December 1837, in which that gentleman states, in reference to the Joonugud case, that your petitioner did intentionally

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

omit to give notice to Mr. Willoughby, the then Political Agent, of the letter which he received from the Nawab of Joonagud, through Shamjee Madowjee, he begs to offer the following explanation for your Excellency's consideration.

In the first place, the letter addressed to your petitioner by the Nawab contained nothing more than that Shamjee Madowjee, the person deputed, would in person inform your petitioner of the object of the deputation, which was, as your petitioner afterwards learnt, to inquire into the purpose to which the money requested by Purbhoolal and Keshuvlal, the Nawab's Karbharees at Rajcote, was to be applied, your petitioner then, in the course of conversation, hinted to him that there were no such dishonest dealings in the British Government, and that the demand might have been made by the Nawab's Karbharies for benefiting themselves, thinking that their trick would not be found out.

Again, as Mr. Willoughby was indisposed at that time, and did not admit any person into his presence, your petitioner was prevented from taking Shamjee Madowjee to that gentleman, and reporting the case to him. However, he requested Shamjee Madowjee to stay at Rajcote until Mr. Willoughby's recovery, but he could not persuade him to do so. Afterwards, when Mr. Willoughby got well, your petitioner did not think it proper to inform him of a case which he had no means to prove.

Your petitioner begs to state that he has brought all these circumstances to the notice of Mr. Erskine and also of Government, in a petition dated 17th January 1838. In this place, your petitioner takes the liberty to ask, that if Government entertains any suspicions against him on account of these circumstances, why was a proper and regular investigation of the case neglected?

Your petitioner begs also to request your enlightened Excellency's particular attention to the circumstance, that if he had been really concerned in the demand made by the Karbharees, how was it possible that they, whose honesty was at stake, would be so merciful to your petitioner as to refrain from mentioning his name in the list of their accomplices; and if any person did at all bear evidence against him, why should the deposition have been kept secret from him? Your petitioner further begs to state that when Mr. Giberne instituted an inquiry into his case, how did the result of that minute and strict inquiry prove the contrary of the charge?

Mr. Long, who was first commissioned to hold a trial of your petitioner's case, could not prove any of the charges preferred against him by persons envious of the trustworthy and respectable situation bestowed on him by Government. These persons, in order to accomplish their evil plans, went so far as to try to persuade Shamjee Madowjee to bear such evidence against your petitioner as would prove his ruin. However, fortunately to your petitioner, Shamjee, solely for the sake of honesty, resisted all their evil designs. The particulars regarding this point have been already communicated to your Excellency in a petition which he presented on the 20th November 1840.

In conclusion, your petitioner takes the liberty to represent that throughout the whole of this case there runs a line of invented schemes for his entire destruction; and Mr. Erskine, whom your petitioner has represented in most of his petitions, stated as seeking his ruin, has been at the bottom of it. As his conscience perfectly assures him of his innocence, and as he fully believes that the several representations handed up by him to Government would convince Government also of the same, he feels it a very heavy, nay, unbearable burden, to be so unjustly charged with dishonesty, and to have unnecessarily an irremediable stain on his character, which his whole object throughout his past life was to keep free even from suspicion, and therefore most humbly requests that your enlightened Excellency in Council will be pleased to take his case into your Excellency's serious consideration, and thereby relieve the character of a man who considers nothing more precious than a just observance of the principles of honour.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Bombay,
11 January 1841.

(signed) *Chotumlal Babpahayes.*

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to *Chotumlal Bapabhoy*, late Native Agent to the Rajcote Agency.

No. 1533.

In reply to your petition, dated the 11th January last, I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to refer you to my letter dated the 24th ultimo, No. 570, and to inform you that the decision of Government therein communicated to you is final.

By Order, &c.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
17 March 1841.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 14 April 1841.

No. 2082.

From *D. A. Blane*, Esq., Political Agent, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir,

In acknowledgment of your letter No. 571, of the 24th ultimo, with enclosures respecting the arrears of salary to Chotumlall Bapoobhae, late native agent, I beg leave to point out that, in the account forwarded with my letter No. 30, of 21st of January 1840, the undrawn salary of the native agent is shown to have been carried to the credit of Government, and not kept in deposit in this office, as would seem to be assumed in your despatch now under reply.

2. The amount of undrawn salary up to the 31st December last, as specified in the said account, was *Rs.* 12,348. 6. 2. According to the Government sanction, dated 19th May last, No. 990, a present was made to the late Mr. Gillies of 1,000 rupees; and the sums advanced to Bugwan Lall, to the extent of *Rs.* 1,173. 1., were subsequently carried to account under the authority of Mr. Chief Secretary Reid's, No. 2022, of 14th September last, making an aggregate of *Rs.* 2,173. 1., which, if considered to have been paid out of the amount above specified, would leave a balance of *Rs.* 10,175. 5. 2.

3. The total deductions from your petitioner's pay "while he was suspended," may, therefore, be held to be unappropriated; and assuming the period of suspension to have terminated on the date of the Government letter, No. 2126, of 9th November 1837, the amount due to him would be *Rs.* 4,338. 6. 2.

4. I would accordingly solicit the further instructions of Government as to the sum to be refunded, namely, whether the amount shown in para. 3 be correct, or whether any larger portion of the balance specified in para. 2 of this letter be included in the relief conceded to the petitioner by the present decision in his favour.

I have, &c.

(signed) *D. A. Blane*,
Political Agent.

Kattywar Political Agent's Office,
Rajkote, 4 March 1841.

Memorandum by the Political Secretary to Government.

No. 2083.

The orders of Government, dated the 24th ultimo, only authorise the payment to Chotum Lall of any portion of his pay between the dates of his suspension and dismissal which may have been unappropriated.

Chotum Lall was suspended on the 27th July 1836, and the orders of Government directing his dismissal are dated the 11th November 1837, showing a period of 15 months and 15 days, during which he remained under suspension, and his full salary for the whole of that period would amount to the sum of *Rs.* 4,658. 6. 2.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

Government, however, some time since, granted a donation of 1,000 rupees to the late Mr. Gillies, and to an individual named Bhugwan Lall, of *Rs.* 1,173. 1., making a total of *Rs.* 2,173. 1., in consideration of extra duty performed by them during Chotum Lall's suspension, and after his dismissal.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

30 March 1841.

No. 2084.

Minute by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Board.

The balance, deducting the above-mentioned items, should be paid to Chotum Lall.

(signed) *J. R. Carnac.*

No. 2085.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to *D. A. Blane*, Esq., Political Agent in Kattewar.

Sir,

In reply to your letter dated the 4th ultimo, No. 52, I am desired, by the Honourable the Governor in Council, to observe that the orders of Government, dated the 24th February last, only authorise the payment to Chotum Lall Bapabhoy of any portion of his pay between the dates of his suspension and dismissal from his situation of native agent to the Rajcote agency which may have been unappropriated.

2. This individual, as you are aware, was suspended on the 27th July 1836, and the order of Government directing his dismissal was dated the 11th November 1837. The time, therefore, he remained under suspension was 15 months and 15 days, and his full salary for the whole of that period would amount to he sum of *Rs.* 4,658. 6. 2.

3. From this amount are to be deducted 1,000 rupees granted to the late Mr. Gillies, and *Rs.* 1,173. 1. to Bhugwan Lall, in consideration of extra duty performed by them during Chotum Lall's suspension, and after his dismissal.

4. The balance, or *Rs.* 2,485. 5. 2., should be made over to Chotum Lall, as directed in the second paragraph of my letter, dated the 24th February last, No. 571.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
12 April 1841.

No. 1021 and 1022.

Copy of the above letter to be sent for the information and guidance of the Deputy Accountant-general in charge and the Civil Auditor.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

No. 2668.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 19 May 1841.

To the Honourable Sir *James Rivett Carnac*, Bart., President and Governor in Council.

The humble Petition of *Chotumlal Bappabhoy*, Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, now residing in Bombay.

Most respectfully showeth,

That your humble petitioner had taken the liberty of presenting to your Excellency a petition, dated the 20th November last, and in answer to it he was informed, on the 24th February last, by order of the Honourable the Court of Directors, that Government was precluded from appointing him to a situation

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

tion similar to one which he held at Kattewar; that the Revenue Commissioner was requested to appoint him to the first vacancy of mamlutdarship that may occur; that his request to be permitted to draw the full salary of his former situation from the date of his suspension up to the date when he might be re-employed could not be complied with; and that Government was pleased to sanction the repayment of a portion of the amount stopped from his pay while he was suspended, and which had been deposited in the Katteeawar treasury.

In reply to this order, your poor petitioner is compelled, and he therefore takes the liberty to repeat some of his former statements, which he trusts will serve as clear proofs in support of his claims.

1st. That certain persons, with malicious motives, made misrepresentations against your petitioner to Government, through Mr. Erskine, the then Political Agent, and the Government, without demanding from him any explanation regarding them, may probably have referred the same to the Court of Directors, and have obtained the orders of his suspension.

2d. That on hisapplying to Government for the investigation of his case, an inquiry was instituted through Mr. Giberne, at Rajcote; that the charges raised against him were entirely removed; and that a report was accordingly transferred by him to Government.

3d. That he is astonished to find that the Court of Directors should send an order of such a nature, in the face of such a report, in which that officer acquits him of all the charges laid against him.

Further, your petitioner begs to state that he would accept the offer of a lower situation which has been made by the Government, which is at liberty to do anything. But he begs leave to state that he was suspended by the misrepresentations made by some of his enemies, and he is glad that the Governor permitted him to live up to this time, which enabled him to acquit himself of the charges, and therefore he is liable to have a higher situation than the former; but instead of granting this favour, the Government has offered him a lower situation; which how can he accept without any charge being proved against him? And by mere misrepresentations, the services rendered by him for a period of 27 years have all been passed over, and that he feels this very much whenever it occurs to his mind.

On the arrival of Mr. Giberne at Rajcote to inquire into the case of the petitioner, his enemies could not plot anything against him, except that they instigated Meeya Jaffer and Koly Suvoy, on a promise to set them at liberty from the imprisonment they were under, to give false evidences against him respecting the case of Dusada village; but fortunately for the petitioner, their depositions proved a falsehood; and if the Government still entertains any suspicions regarding the latter case, he requests that an order for proving the same may be issued to the authorities there. He begs to enclose two memorandums of the miss-statements regarding this case, which your petitioner learnt from Nagjee Gunneshjee, of Moze Punchasur, Talooka Rajunpoor. Your Excellency in Council, on taking this memorandum into full consideration, will, your petitioner trusts, be convinced of the misrepresentations of his enemies; and he requests, therefore, that the salary of his former situation may be paid to him till he obtains another situation similar to his former one. He was unjustly suspended, obliged to undergo a trial before the court of justices, which put him to considerable expenses, and lost all his personal property, and the services formerly rendered by him have all been passed over. This is a great oppression upon him, and he requests that your Honourable Board, who is the principal fountain of justice and equity, will be pleased to forward this, together with all the Government proceedings in his case, with a recommendation in his behalf to the Court of Directors; and he trusts that the Honourable Court will, from the strict and impartial report of Mr. Giberne, be convinced of his innocence, and order the restoration of his former situation to him, or of one equivalent to it.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

(signed) *Chotumlal Bappabhoy.*

Bombay, 8 March 1841.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

No. 2669.

MEMORANDUM by the Political Secretary to Government.

IN regard to this individual's case, I beg to refer the Honourable Board to my memorandum, dated the 21st December last, which will be found to contain a complete summary of all circumstances connected with the causes which led to his removal from the situation of head native agent in the office of the Political Agent in Kattywar.

2. The Honourable the Court of Directors have recorded their opinion that this Government has taken too lenient a view of this person's guilt, and have directed, that if he should be hereafter re-employed in the service of Government, it shall be only in a subordinate situation.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
4 May 1841. Secretary to Government.

No. 2670.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Board.

PETITIONER to be informed that the decision of Government, passed in his case, cannot be disturbed.

(signed) *J. H. Crawford.*

TRANSLATION of a Statement made by *Nagjee Gunnesh*, respecting the Bribes that were given to different Persons on account of the Dussuda Robbery.

THE total amount of rupees got out at three different times from Dussuda, was 4,500 rupees, of which—

2,000 rupees were brought by Meea Bappoojee and Soora Pooja, in Jest, Sumvut 1888.
1,300 rupees were brought by Colie Anunda and Mea Bhimjie, in Shrawan of the same year, and
1,200 rupees were brought by Mea Bappooja, in the same month.

Total, 4,500 rupees, which were disposed in the following manner:

From the first amount of 2,000 rupees were given,

	Rs.
To Madowrow Bappa, through Sawraee and Jaffer - -	1,000
„ Govindrow Nurbur - - - - - - - -	600
„ Madee Gora, on account of former transactions - -	400
Rs.	2,000

From the second amount of 1,300 rupees were given,

	Rs.
To Madowrow Bappa - - - - - - - -	600
„ Umrutlal Ummechund - - - - - - -	500
„ Goolabraee - - - - - - - - -	100
„ Sundry expenses - - - - - - - -	100
Rs.	1,300

From the third amount of 1,200 rupees were given,

	Rs.
To Hurrybhaee - - - - - - - - -	300
„ Patell Sawraee - - - - - - - - -	300
„ Ditto ditto - - - - - - - - -	150
„ Gangjee, for hire of carts - - - - - -	
„ Mea Jaffer - - - - - - - - - -	450
Rs.	1,200

This

This was the information given to me while I was in gaol, in the month of Shrawan, by Colie Suwraee, Sungree Jetta, and Hurreebhaee, when I questioned them on the subject. I then asked Colie Suwraee, that such being the circumstances, on what grounds did he mention Chotumlal's name, when he replied that he was persuaded to do so, although he was going to state Madowrow's name, the person actually concerned in the affair. Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

When I saw Hurreebhaee confessing that he did not give a pice to Chotumlal, I put the same question to him, when he said he was threatened and forced to sign the invented statement of Chotumlal's having received bribes.

I was also told by them that there were two documents, one in the possession of Sungvee Jetta, and the other in that of Patel Wala Washram, which distinctly and correctly give this information, and prove Chotumlal to be an innocent man.

Sumvut 1893. Vyshak Vud Beeg.

Translation of a Statement made by *Nagjee Gunness*.

When I asked Colie Sawaee why did he falsely say, in the open court, that Madowrow received only 85 rupees, while the actual sum was 1,600; that Goindrow received 25 rupees, while the sum paid to him was 600; and that Chotumlal received 1,000 rupees, when he did not touch a single rea? He replied that Mr. Erskine and Moonshee Lootfoolla compelled him to do so. I then asked him how could he make such false statements, when he was bound by his oath to say nothing but truth? On which he said, that when Mr. Erskine, who was also bound by his oath to do justice, obliged him to do so, he had no alternative.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to *Chotumlul Bappabhoy*, late Native Agent to the Rajcote Agency. No. 2671.

Sir,

In reply to your petition, dated the 8th March last, I am directed, by the Honourable the Governor in Council, to inform you that the decision which has been passed by Government in your case cannot be disturbed.

By order, &c.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 14 May 1841.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, September 1841. No. 4891.

To the Honourable Sir *James Rivett Carnac*, Bart., President and Governor in Council, &c. &c. &c.

The humble Petition of *Chotum Lal Bappabhyee*, Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, now residing in Bombay,

Most respectfully showeth,

That, on presenting a petition to Government, on the 8th March 1841, your humble petitioner received an answer on the 14th May, informing him that the decision already passed in his case could not be disturbed; that the tenor of this reply, your petitioner with due deference begs to state, leads him to think that the object of his last petition has been misunderstood; for his prayer was, that all the papers connected with his case, particularly Mr. Giberne's report, which is the result of a patient, strict, and impartial inquiry, should be transmitted to the Honourable the Court of Directors, who as your petitioner is told, in the reply, dated 24th February 1841, have probably, on Mr. Erskine's unfounded statements, given their decision against your petitioner's restoration to his former office in the Katteeawar Agency, and who may, after reviewing all the proceedings in the case, be induced to do impartial justice to an old servant of theirs, whose fidelity and innocence have now been so clearly established.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

Your petitioner, therefore, again takes the liberty to request your Honour in Council will be pleased to order all the reports, as well as his petitions and Government replies to them, to be forwarded to the Honourable the Court of Directors, who, he is perfectly satisfied, always study to encourage the innocent industry of their loyal subjects, and to ameliorate their condition.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

(signed) *Chotumlal Bappabhyee.*

Bombay, 17 May 1841.

(True extract.)

(signed) J. P. Willoughby,
Officiating Chief Secretary.

No. 3942.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 3 August 1842.

No. 2023 of 1842.

From *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Captain *G. L. G. Jacob*, Acting Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

With reference to former correspondence relative to Chotum Lall, late native agent of the Katteewar Political Agency, who was dismissed from that office in 1837, in consequence of the strongest suspicions of his having participated in the extensive system of bribery, discovered in the previous year to have existed amongst the native establishment of that agency; I am directed to transmit to you an extract, paragraphs 6 and 7 of a letter from the Honourable the Court of Directors, No. 7, dated the 22d of March last, on the subject.

2. Mr. Erskine, the late Political Agent in Katteewar, had preferred four charges against Chotum Lall, on the first and fourth of which he has been acquitted; but the second and third have not been actually proved. The Government, however, recorded its opinion that strong suspicion of guilt attaches to this individual in regard to both of them.

3. I am now, however, desired to inform you, that under the views expressed by the Honourable Court, the Honourable the Governor in Council has resolved that the second and third charges against Chotum Lall should be investigated *de novo*, in his presence, and that that individual should have every fair opportunity of clearing himself from the strong suspicion which at present attaches to him.

4. The Governor in Council has further resolved that this re-investigation should, in the absence of Mr. Blane, the Political Agent, be conducted by you; and I am instructed to state that Chotum Lall has been informed of the same, and requested to be present on the occasion, for the purpose of defending himself.

5. In conclusion, I beg to request that you will report the result for the information of Government.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle,
30 July 1842.

(signed) *L. R. Reid,*
Chief Secretary to Government.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

No. 2024 of 1842.

No. 3943.

From *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *Chotum Lall Bappa Bhyee*, late Native Agent of the Rajkote Agency.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to inform you, that under the instructions of the Honourable the Court of Directors, Government has resolved that the second and third charges which had been preferred against you by Mr. Erskine, the late Political Agent in Katteewar, should be re-investigated in your presence, and that you should have every fair opportunity of clearing yourself from the strong suspicions existing against you.

2. Captain Jacob, the Acting Political Agent in Katteewar, has been instructed to conduct this investigation; and I am desired to request that you will be present on the occasion to defend yourself.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle, 30 July 1842.

(signed) *L. R. Reid*,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 22 December 1842.

No. 6011.

No. 221 of 1842.

From the Acting Political Agent in Katteewar, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq. Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

WITH reference to Mr. Chief Secretary Reid's letter, No. 2023, dated 30th July last, transmitting extracts, paras. 6 and 7, from a despatch from the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 22d March 1842, No. 7, and conveying the commands of Government that I should investigate *de novo* the second and third charges preferred by Mr. Erskine, the late Political Agent, against Chotum Lall, the late native agent; I do myself the honour to represent that on searching the records of this office, I cannot ascertain any exact catalogue of charges preferred by Mr. Erskine, there being numerous assertions of malpractices scattered throughout a variety of reports; but on referring to Mr. Chief Secretary Wathen's letter, No. 2128 A, dated 11th November 1837, I perceive four charges out of the number are particularised; the first of these, regarding the acceptance of certain Poojee materials, appeared not substantiated at the time; and the fourth was tried before the Judicial Commissioner in March 1839: I therefore conclude that Government intends the remaining two charges on this list should be investigated; viz., first, an alleged bribe given by Ootumchund Ghandee, the ex-minister of Poorbundur; secondly, alleged bribes given in Sumvut 1880 (A.D. 1823–24), and Sumvut 1884 (A.D. 1827–28), by the Palitana talooka. Should my view of this case be incorrect, I beg to be favoured with further instructions on the subject.

2. The preliminary information requisite to enable me to conduct the inquiry into these two charges is not, I beg to report, forthcoming in the records of this office. I have only for my guidance Mr. Erskine's letters, No. 355 of 12th October and No. 397 of 1st December 1836, the last throwing no light on the transactions under discussion; the Government letter of 11th November 1837 above quoted; Chotum Lall's petition to Government, dated 17th January 1838, forwarded with your letter of 10th March, No. 448, and Mr. Erskine's reply thereto, dated 28th September 1838, No. 373. The appendices to Mr. Erskine's report of 12th October apparently contain the whole of the criminatory matter that is now to be re-investigated, and would seem essential to enable me to shape my inquiry; but they have not been entered with the letter, and a diligent search through the rough papers of the office has failed to supply me with them. A further letter from this gentleman, dated 20th February 1837, is, I perceive, alluded to in Mr. Wathen's letter of 11th November following; but this also is missing. I beg therefore that I may be favoured with these documents,

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

ments, or with copies of the same, as may appear to the Honourable the Governor in Council requisite for the ends of justice; in the meantime, to enable me to conduct the inquiry with effect, I deemed it my duty to examine preliminarily the witnesses, who from the information within my reach I had summoned for the purpose. I do myself the honour to submit copies of their evidence; viz.:

Of Wullubjee Ootumchund, son - }
Of Kubba Ootumchund, son - } of the late ex-minister
Of Deewan Roogonathjee, nephew - } of Porebundur.

These depositions prove that no grounds existed for the accusation against Chotum Lall of his having received a bribe or present from Ootumchund Ghandee; and the Honourable the Governor in Council may probably herein perceive cause for acquitting him of the charge, without further inquiry, should any doubt remain. I beg to suggest that Kheema Kotaree, whose testimony was deemed wanting in the 8th para. of the Government letter of 11th November 1837, and who is now said to be in Bombay, should be required to give his evidence, or be directed to attend on me for the purpose.

3. Earnest applications have been made by the Nuwab and others, on behalf of Ootumchund's widow, to spare her the indignity of being forced to appear as a witness before me, and being duly sensible of the deep prejudices of her caste on this score, and being at the same time of opinion that no further information can be elicited than what has already been obtained from her sons, I beg, should Government conceive the charge to call for further inquiry, that I may be permitted to obtain her evidence by a commission.

4. Mungleljee Roopsee, conspicuously alluded to in the depositions annexed, is now, I am told, in Kutch; this individual is a designing intriguer, on whose word no reliance can be placed. It would seem necessary, however, to confront him with the sons and nephew of Ootumchund, in case of any further inquiry being directed; and the same course would appear requisite as respects Mr. Erskine's moonshee Looft Allee, who, I am informed, is now in Surat; the commands of the Honourable the Governor in Council on these points are solicited.

5. I feel that some apology is due for my troubling you with an incomplete report; but you will, I hope, perceive my dependance on the documents herein solicited, and my inability to do justice at this interval of time to the inquiry entrusted to me in the absence of any accuser, or party interested in the prosecution, and in ignorance of the entire evidence on which Mr. Erskine's opinion of his native agent's guilt was based.

I have, &c.

(signed) *G. L. Jacob,*
Acting Pol. Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency, Rajkote,
29 September 1842.

Enclosure to Government Letter, No. 221 of 1842.

Wullubjee Ootumchund, a Banian of the Ghandee tribe, aged 28 years, inhabitant of Kotiana, formerly of Poorbunder, now in the service of the Nuwab of Joonaghur's Minister, Jubber Shet, summoned and examined on oath this 27th day of September 1842, at Rajcote, before Captain Jacob, Acting Political Agent.

Question 1. State what you know regarding an alleged bribe of a gold chain, said to have been given by the late Ootumchund, your father, to one of the Government karkoons? —*Answer.* I know nothing whatever of any such circumstance.

2. Do you know of your mother's having made any complaint to this effect?—I do not know of her making any such complaint.

3. Did you at any time make any deposition before Mr. Erskine, the former Political Agent; and if so, what was its nature?—I signed a paper before Munguljee and the moonshee who were with Mr. Erskine, but I do not know its contents.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

4. When was this?—It was in the year Sumvut 1892, when Mr. Erskine came to Kotiana. I don't remember the month.

5. Explain how you came to sign a paper of which you knew nothing?—My brother came to call me to my mother's; I lived in a separate house; I accordingly went there. I saw Mr. Erskine seated, and Munguljee and the moonshee. Munguljee said to me, "Your mother has made a statement, and has signed it with her mark; do you also sign it." I replied, "Let me read it first, and I will sign it." Munguljee said, "Of what use your reading it; your mother has made a statement, can you not sign it also?" I answered as before. Munguljee said, "What I have done has been for the benefit of your family, and if you refuse to sign the statement, the Sahib will become angry, and send you all back to Poorbunder." I then became alarmed, and signed the paper. At this time Mr. Erskine, who was seated a short way off, rose and left the house, and Munguljee and the moonshee joined him, and went away also. I then went to my mother's, inside, and asked what she had been doing about the paper. My mother replied, that Munguljee had assured her he had been arranging for her restoration to Poorbunder. I asked what she had written; she replied that she did not know. I asked if she had kept a copy; she replied that she had not. I then complained that I had signed, because I believed she had made the statement. We then resolved to depute my brother after Mr. Erskine's camp, to obtain a copy of the paper we had signed. My brother, Quewun, accordingly went, I think, to Gunodor Leelakha, one stage off, I forget whereabouts Mr. Erskine had halted, and asked Munguljee, on my mother's and my behalf, for a copy of the paper that we had signed. Munguljee told him he was a fool to make such a request, and sent him back; consequently we did not know what was written.

6. Who was Munguljee, that you should have confided in him in this blind manner?—Munguljee Roopsee was formerly in my father's employ, when he was minister of the Rana, and is besides of our caste.

7. Did Mr. Erskine ask you any questions?—No.

8. Did that gentleman say anything to you?—No.

9. You stated that he was seated a short way off; was he superintending the examination or conversation, as you term it, between Munguljee and yourself?—No; he was too far off for this.

10. Where is now Dewan Ghandee, and who is he?—At Kotiana; he has, I believe, been ordered to attend here. He is my cousin; his name is Dewan Rugoonathjee.

11. Did he never speak to you about a gold chain belonging to your father given away to anybody?—Never.

12. Do you know anything of any deposition made by him on this subject?—Nothing.

13. Do you live together, or is there intimacy between you?—No, we have separate houses, and are not particularly intimate.

14. Is there any enmity between you?—No, there is neither friendship nor enmity; but we do not place any confidence in him.

15. When Mr. Erskine visited your mother's house in Kotiana, as stated, with the moonshee and Munguljee, who was with your mother?—I do not know; my brother, Kubba, came to fetch me.

16. Who was there on your arrival?—I stopped at the verandah to speak with Munguljee, as stated; afterwards when I went inside, I found her alone. Kubba went with me.

17. When did your father die?—In the month of Ensha, Sumvut 1891, (A. D. February 1835).

18. When was he turned out of Poorbunder?—In Sumvut 1888, (A. D. 1831/32).

19. Remembering your oath, say whether you have ever heard your mother speak on the subject of a gold chain given to anybody by your father?—I never heard her say anything of the kind.

20. Do you know Chotum Lal?—No.

21. Did you ever see him?—No.

22. Have you had any intercourse with any one on his behalf, on the subject of the present inquiry, directly or indirectly?—No.

Sworn to before me, this 27th day of September 1842.

(signed) *G. L. Jacob*, Acting Political Agent.

Rajcote, 28 September 1842.

Kubba Ootumchund, a Banian of the Ghandee tribe, aged 19 years, inhabitant of Kotiana, formerly of Poorbundur, now residing at Joonaghur, in the service of His Highness the Newab of Noonaghur, called before Captain Jacob, Acting Political Agent, and examined on oath,

Question 1. Are you a son of Banian Ootumchund, commonly termed Ootum Ghandee?—*Answer*. Yes.

2. Do you know anything of a gold chain said to have been given by your father to some person in the employ of Government?—No.

3. Did you ever hear your mother converse on this subject?—Never.

4. Did she not make a deposition to this effect before Mr. Erskine, when that gentleman was at Kotiana?—Munguljee Roopsee asked her to sign a paper, which he said would

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

secure an adjustment of my father's Poorbunder affairs, which she signed; but I don't know what the contents of the paper were.

5. Do you suppose your mother would thus sign a document without knowing its contents?—My mother knew nothing of its contents.

6. How do you know that your mother was ignorant of its contents?—My mother told me so.

7. Were you present when this paper was signed?—Yes.

8. State all particulars connected with this transaction that you yourself know?—Munguljee came to our house on a visit. My mother said to him, "It will be a great thing if my Poorbunder affairs can be arranged;" Munguljee said he would write a petition for her on the subject. My mother then begged him to come to eat his dinner; afterwards he came to dinner, and brought a paper with him, saying, "Sign this paper." My mother said, "Let me read it, and I will sign it." Munguljee said, "You womenkind do not understand these matters; I am working for your benefit, you should therefore sign this paper." My mother then signed the paper, and Munguljee said to me, "Come with me to the Sahib." I then accompanied him to Mr. Erskine, and that gentleman came to our house. I then went to fetch my brother, Wulubjee, saying, "The Sahib has come to our house, do you come;" my brother then accompanied me to our mother's house. The Sahib was seated in an outer apartment, my mother was inside. Munguljee and the moonshee took my brother aside and threatened him, on which he also signed the paper. Mr. Erskine, the moonshee, and Munguljee then left the place. My brother then spoke to my mother about this paper, to know what it was about; my mother said she did not know. It was then resolved to send my brother, Jeewun, after Munguljee, who had left the town with Mr. Erskine, to ask for a copy of the paper; Munguljee told him he was mad to make this request. My brother then returned without a copy.

9. You say that Munguljee came to dine with you, and yet that he took you away to Mr. Erskine's; how is this?—My mother signed the paper, and Munguljee then eat his dinner, and afterwards took me with him to Mr. Erskine.

10. Where was Mr. Erskine then?—He was outside the Thepra gate, seated in a chair under a tree; the tents had been sent on to the next stage.

11. Did Mr. Erskine ask you any questions when Munguljee took you to him?—No; I made my salam, and stood at a distance.

12. Do you know what report Munguljee made to Mr. Erskine?—No; I did not hear what he said.

13. Do you know whether Mr. Erskine put any questions to your mother on his visit to your house?—Not before me; my mother told me that Mr. Erskine had asked her what expenses she had incurred on being released from Poorbunder, and that she had replied, "Uorut admee ko khubur nuheen," females were ignorant on such matters. Munguljee then spoke, saying, "I have taken her deposition."

14. Where were you when this conversation occurred?—I had gone to fetch my brother.

15. When did your mother tell you of it?—On being now sent for, my mother told me that such was the conversation.

16. Did she not tell you anything about it at the time?—No.

17. Can you account for this surprising omission?—I am now only 19, and then I must have been 11 or 12.

18. Can you state when this circumstance took place?—It was in Sumvut 1892, but I can't remember the month.

19. How is it you remember your brother Jeewun being sent for a copy of a paper, and what he said when he came back one stage after Munguljee?—I remember it, and their talking about it; I heard him relate what had passed on his return.

20. How do you know what passed between your brother Wullumbjee and Munguljee, on your bringing him to your mother's house?—Wullubjee told me; I did not hear it myself.

21. Did this take place before Mr. Erskine?—Mr. Erskine was seated at a little distance in the pursal,* and the moonshee and Munguljee were with my brother in the verandah.

22. When did your brother tell you that he had been threatened, and so signed?—He said so at the time.

23. Do you know Chotum Lal?—No.

24. Do you know who he is, and have you ever seen him?—He was a Government servant; I have never seen him.

25. Have you ever had any communication from any quarter as to the nature of the evidence you should give on coming before me?—My mother told me what to say on her part, and to represent that it would be a disgrace to her, and contrary to the custom of our caste, for her to attend to give evidence, so she told me all she knew, and I have told the sahib accordingly.

26. Can you swear that, to the best of your knowledge and belief, no member of your family has had communication, directly or indirectly, with Chotum Lal on the subject of this evidence?—I swear it; I knew of no such communication or hint.

27. Where is Kheema Kotaree, and who is he?—He is in Bombay; he is a Banian, of the Sortia tribe.

28. Is

* Entrance room or hall, the osree or closed verandah being outside of it, and the dining, sleeping apartments, &c., inside.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

28. Is he related to you, or what connexion has he with your affairs?—He is no relation, but he was under my father when karbaree of Porbundur, and was confined along with him and released at the same time.

29. Did he transact any business for your father afterwards?—He used to accompany my father in getting their Poorbundur affairs arranged; after my father's death he went to Bombay.

30. Can you state whereabouts he is in Bombay?—He has a shop for sale of cloths, but whereabouts I know not.

31. Do you know whether his shop is under the name of any particular firm?—I don't know.

Deposed on oath before me this 28th day of September 1842.

(signed) *G. L. Jacob,*
Acting Political Agent.

Rajkote, 29 September 1842.

Duwun Roogunathjee, a Banian of the Ghandee tribe, aged 41 years, summoned; and examined on oath before Captain Jacob, Acting Political Agent in Katteewar.

1. *Question.* ARE you related to the late Ootumchund Ghandee; if so, state the affinity?—*Answer.* Ootumchund was my father's brother.

2. I perceive it stated in the Political Agent's records, that you made a deposition before Mr. Erskine, touching certain appropriation of a gold chain by him; state the particulars of this affair?—I had taken the village of Phoolrama in farm for ten years, belonging to Kherun Beebee, of Joonaghur, and lost all my money upon it. I then came to Rajkote, to petition the Political Agent on the subject. I came before in Sumvut 1892, the month of Jet, (June 1836). I knew none here, except Munguljee Roopsee, who was a Poorbundur acquaintance, so I put up at his house. I explained to him the motive of my journey hither; Munguljee bid me stay, and said that he would take an opportunity of making my case known to the moonshee, Mr. Erskine's moonshee, I don't know his name, and of presenting me to him; I thus staid a month. Mungaljee then said, I have spoken of your matter to the moonshee, come with me to him. I then accompanied Munguljee to the moonshee; Munguljee said, "Here is Ootum Ghandee's nephew." The moonshee asked me if this were so, I replied, "Yes, I am Ootum Ghandee's nephew." Munguljee then conversed in a whisper with the moonshee, but what he said I did not hear; the moonshee then said to me, "You will have to go to Kotiana." I asked why? He said, "I have heard it alleged that your uncle gave a chain, go you to Kotiana and institute inquiries into this matter." I replied, "Whom am I to ask? I know nothing about this." The moonshee repeated what he before said, and I replied, "How can I act in a matter that I am ignorant of?" The moonshee said, "You must write a statement about this chain, because what I have heard reported to be the case requires corroboration; on your so doing, I will speak to Mr. Erskine, and get your Poorbundur and your farm affairs both satisfactorily arranged." I said, "This is good, but how can I depose to a false statement?" He replied, "It is stated, that Ootum Ghandee gave a gold chain weighing 20 gudeeanas, and you must give your testimony." I refused so to do. The moonshee then said, "I must write this in your name, whether you agree to say so or no." Munguljee then brought pen, ink, and paper, and said to me, "Do as you are told, and state that the chain was given." I asked to whom was it given, I know nothing about it, how can I depose on the subject? He said, "Never mind to whom it was given, do you write that it was given away." Munguljee said, "Do so, and all your affairs shall be arranged for you." I replied, "If I comply with your request, I must not be examined or confronted, for I cannot corroborate such a statement before anybody's face." Munguljee said that I should not be further questioned, but that I had merely to write. I then wrote according to what Munguljee dictated, and after that, I returned to the town to Munguljee's house. Munguljee had ordered his wife to inform me that henceforward I must pay for my board, I therefore fasted that day, and having no money, went without food until the 3d day, when Ram Sungjee, the Rana's brother, whom Mr. Erskine had brought from Poorbundur and confined, had been released and came into the town. He sent for me, and took me into his service. Munguljee's wife then cooked for me the food I brought to her house, and there I continued to eat my meals, until Mr. Erskine went into the Nuggur country, and thence to Poorbundur. Munguljee then bid me join that gentleman's camp at Poorbundur, and said that my affairs should be arranged. Ram Singjee and I then left for Poorbundur, but the sahib became sick, and after eight or nine days embarked for Bombay, so that I returned without anything being done for me to Kotiana.

3. When and where did this interview with the moonshee take place?—In the moonshee's house. I think it was in Asar or Srawun of Sumvut 1892 (July or August 1836), but I cannot now remember the date; the interview took place in the forenoon about nine or ten o'clock.

4. Did you corroborate the statement before Mr. Erskine?—No.

5. Did you at any time see Mr. Erskine relative to this affair?—I never once saw Mr. Erskine, except to make my salam at a distance; Mr. Erskine never spoke to me.

6. Since you wrote the statement yourself, mention what you deposed to?—I cannot remember; I was sick and in great poverty and distress of mind; it was about a gold chain, I think, but do not exactly remember; there may have been other matters, or there may not. It was a karistan (intrigue) of Munguljee's; I cannot remember what he said.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

7. Did you retain any copy of the statement?—No; I asked for a copy, but it was refused me. Munguljee asked me of what use it would be to me.

8. Since you knowingly wrote a false statement then, how am I to believe your statement now?—I was in deep distress and poverty; they told me that I should be relieved, and that whether I wrote the statement or not, that it must be written or their word would be disproved. What could I do? I had not even a handful of jowaree to eat. The frost of St. 91, destroyed my crops on which I had expended all my means. My wife was in like poverty with myself, and we had pledged everything we had.

9. What assurance can I have, since you told a falsehood from selfish motives then, that you are not doing so from some concealed motive now?—What motive can I have now; the sahib does not promise good or evil, threaten or expostulate; why should I not tell the truth; what could I do then, situated as I was?

10. Do you know whose name was taken as the party to whom the gold chain was said to have been given?—No.

11. Have you not since heard?—No, I have not.

12. Do you know Chotum Lal?—No; I have seen him at a distance, but otherwise I do not know him. When my uncle lived, if there were any affairs to transact he used to do them.

13. How could you be in such distress as you have stated, since Ootum Ghandee was your uncle?—Ootum Ghandee was wealthy before his being confined at Poorbundur in St. 1881, when all his effects were sold towards paying the fine of 1,75,000 corees demanded by the Ranee's people; afterwards he had credit, but no wealth. His three years' subsequent karbar enabled him to marry his two sons; he died in St. 1891, in the month of Muha.

14. Did you serve as a writer under your uncle?—I was in the Rana's service, who gave me jeewaee, and I kept the Durbar books.

15. Will you swear that you never made any entry in these books of sums expended for gifts or otherwise for Chotum Lal?—I never did, I kept the house expenses chiefly; there were many writers.

16. Have you had any conversation with any one respecting the object of your being now sent for?—No; Hubeeb Khan ordered me to attend here, saying you had sent for me, but did not tell me why.

17. Has any communication been sent you on the subject, either orally or in writing, by any party whatever?—None whatever.

18. Do you mean to say that you were not aware of the cause of your being summoned until you came before me this day?—I asked the suwar who came to Kotiana for me, but he could not tell me; on reaching Joonaghur I asked Hubeeb Khan, neither could he; and I only came here at nine o'clock last night.

19. Have you had no conversation with any one here on the subject?—Hubeeb Khan ordered me to have no intercourse with any one until I had been in your presence, and I have spoken to no one.

20. Where did you put up last night?—At the Nuwab's ootara in Rajkote.

21. Are you ready to depose to what you have here said in the presence of Moonshee Looft Allee, and of Munguljee Roopsee?—Certainly, I will state the same before them.

22. What is now your occupation?—I keep the account of the Nuwab's ministers at Kotiana.

Deposed on oath before me, this 29th day of September 1842.

(signed) *G. L. G. Jacob,*
Acting Political Agent.

Minute by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Anderson*.

6012, 1. It is quite clear, from the evidence accompanying this report, if that is the whole evidence, that Chotum Lall would be acquitted on the charge of having received a gold chain from Ootum Ghandy, and, if it is to be believed, it is equally clear that the most improper means were resorted to, to ensure his conviction.

2. In compliance with the Honourable Court's orders, that charge, and any others on our records which were not at the time disproved, must be re-investigated.

3. All the papers connected with this case may be sent in original to Captain Jacob, with the exception of the Minutes of Government. These should be returned with the Political Agent's report.

4. The widow of Ootum Ghandy may be examined by a commission.

5. Keema Kotaree may be requested to proceed to Rajcote, or, if he declines to

to do this, he may be examined on interrogatories to be prepared by the Political Agent, and to be sent to the senior magistrate of police at the Presidency. Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

6. Menguljee Roopsee should be summoned from Cutch, and the Munshee Looft Alee should be sent to Surat in charge of a peon, in order that they may be confronted with those who now declare that they were compelled to give false evidence against Chotum Lall.

7. I am not aware that we can do anything more at this stage of the inquiry.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
G. W. Anderson.

No. 3104 of 1842.

From the Secretary to the Government of Bombay to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar. 6013.

Sir,

1. I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of Captain Jacob's letter, No. 221, dated the 29th September last, submitting copies of the evidence of the persons named in the margin,* connected with the charges of bribery preferred, in 1838, by Mr. Erskine, then Political Agent in Kattywar, against Chottum Bappabaee, late native agent of the Rajcote Agency.

* 1. Wullubjee Ootumchund.
2. Kubba Ootumchund.
3. Dewan Rugoonathjee.

2. In reply, I am desired to request that, in compliance with the instructions contained in paras. 6 and 7 of the letter from the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated the 22d of March last, you will be pleased to investigate, *de novo*, the second charge against Chottum Lall, namely, of having received a gold chain from Ootum Ghandy, as well as any other charge or charges against that individual which were not at the time disproved.

3. In order to facilitate this inquiry, I am desired to forward to you the original documents, noted in the annexed list, connected with this case.

4. Adverting to the 3d para. of your letter, I am desired to convey to you the authority of Government to examine the widow of Ootum Ghandy by a commission.

5. The individual named Kheema Kotaree, has been requested through the senior magistrate of police to proceed to Rajcote, but should he decline to do so, that officer has been instructed to communicate his refusal to you, in order that you may prepare and forward a memorandum containing interrogatories, so that he may examine that individual at Bombay.

6. In regard to the person named Munguljee Roopsee, alluded to in the fourth paragraph of your letter, I am directed to authorise you to summon that person from Cutch.

7. The magistrate of Surat has been requested to send to Rajkote the moonshee named Looft Alee, in order that Munguljee Roopsee and this person may be confronted with those who now declare that they were compelled to give false evidence against Chotum Lall.

8. In conclusion, I am desired to request that the original documents accompanying this letter, may be returned with your report.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 21 December 1842.

No. 3105 of 1842.

From the Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to *P. W. Le Geyt*, Esq, Senior Magistrate of Police. 6014.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to request that you will be pleased to summon before you a Banian shopkeeper, named Kheema

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

Kotarree, who formerly resided at Porebunder, and intimate to him that his presence is required at Rajcote, for the purpose of given evidence before the Political Agent in Kattywar, in a case of importance now pending before that officer.

2. Should this person decline to proceed to Rajcote, the Governor in Council requests that you will communicate his refusal to Mr. Malet, the Political Agent, who has been instructed in such a case to forward to you a memorandum of interrogatories, in order to enable you to examine him in Bombay.

Should you be unable to discover Kheema Kotarree, you will be pleased to make a reference to the Political Agent on the subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 21 December 1842.

No. 3106 of 1842.

6015. From the Secretary to the Government of Bombay to Sir *R. K. Arbuthnot,* Magistrate of Surat.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you an extract, paragraph 4, of a letter, dated the 29th September last, from Captain Jacob, then Acting Political Agent in Kattywar, and to request that you will be pleased to send the moonshee therein alluded to, named Looft Ali, in charge of a peon, to Mr. Malet, the Political Agent at Rajkote.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 21 December 1842.

LIST of PAPERS sent to the Political Agent in Kattywar, on the 21st December 1842, regarding the Charges of Bribery against *Chotum Bappoobhaee,* late Head Native Agent of the Rajkote Agency.

1. From the Political Agent in Katteewar, dated the 6th July 1836, No. 213, with enclosures.
2. Reply to, dated the 4th November 1836, No. 2086.
3. Translate of a letter from Chotum Lal Bappoobhaee, dated 17th July 1836.
4. Petition from ditto, dated 27th July 1836.
5. Resolution of Government in the Political Department, dated 4th November 1836.
6. To the Political Agent in Katteewar, dated the 4th November 1836, No. 2,087.
7. To J. P. Willoughby, Esq., late Political Agent in Kattywar, dated 4th November 1836, No. 2,088.
8. From the Political Agent in Kattywar, dated 12th October 1836, No. 355, with enclosures A. to D.
9. From ditto, dated the 1st December 1836, No. 397.
10. From J. P. Willoughby, late Political Agent in Kattywar, dated 10th December 1836.
11. Substance of a letter from Chotum Lall Bapphoobhaee, dated 11th December 1836.
12. To the Political Agent in Kattywar, dated the 11th November 1837, No. 2,128 A.
13. From the Political Agent in Kattywar, dated the 31st December 1837.
14. Reply to, dated 23d March 1838, No. 521.
15. Translation of a petition from Chotum Lall Bappoobhaee, dated 17th January 1838.
16. To the First Assistant in charge of the Kattywar Agency, dated 10th March 1838, No. 448.
17. Substance

17. Substance of a petition from Chotum Lall Bappoobhaee, dated 24th May 1838.

18. To the Political Agent in Kattywar, dated 26th June 1838, No. 1,211.

19. Petition from Chotum Lall Bapphoobhaee, dated 10th October 1838.

20. From the Political Agent in Kattywar, dated the 28th September 1838, No. 373.

21. To ditto, and to the Acting Judicial Commissioner for Guzerat and Konkan, dated 25th November 1838, Nos. 2292 and 2293.

22. To Chotum Lall Buppoobhaee, dated 25th November 1838, No. 2294.

23. From the Officiating Judicial Commissioner, dated 10th December 1838.

24. To the Political Agent in Kattywar, the Officiating Judicial Commissioner for Guzerat and Chotumlall Bapphoobhaee, dated 10th January 1839, Nos. 79 to 81.

25. From G. Giberne, Esq., dated 5th March 1839, with enclosure.

26. To the Political Agent in Kattywar and Chotumlall Bapphoobhaee, dated 22d May 1839, Nos. 943 & 944.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 11 January 1843.

General, No. 410 of 1842.

Government, No. 232 of 1842.—Political Department.

From the Acting Political Agent in Katteewar to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to the Government, Bombay.

No. 54.

Sir,

1. With reference to my letter, No. 221, dated 29th September last, I do myself the honour to submit translate of the Palitana chief's reply to my requisition for books and witnesses acquainted with the transactions of the years A. D. 1823–24 and 1827–28. The former, he says, have never been returned to him; and the only person informed of what they relate to in the Durbar Dufturee is dead. I have had the office examined, but the books are not in it; and if they have not been returned to the chief, they must have been carried off by some of the intriguing characters who were unhappily concerned in the inquiries which Mr. Erskine was induced to set on foot at th e period these books were before him. You are aware that a complete change has since taken place of the principal native functionaries of the agency, so that I can gain no information regarding them.

Chotum Lal.—Reporting that certain documents connected with the case of, applied for to the Palitana Durbar, are not forthcoming, and soliciting further instructions in consequence.

2. Under the circumstances stated by the Palitana Durbar, there appear no grounds on which to base further inquiry; and I beg, therefore, to solicit the further instructions of Government.

I have, &c.

Katteewar Political Agency, Rajkote, 1 November 1842.

(signed) *G. L. Jacob*, Acting Political Agent.

Translation of Letter from *Gohel Nowghunjee* and *Koour Purtab Singjee*, Chief and Koour of Palitana; dated Asoo Sood 2d, 1898 (A. D. 6 October 1842.)

A. C.

The Sahib's letter, dated 20th September has been received, in which is written that in Sr. 1880 and in 1884, certain items of Sookree were inserted in the books of this Durbar, as given to Chotum Lal, and that this was ascertained on the books being handed in; pursuant to a complaint against the Shet preferred by us, and requiring the transmission of these books, with the attendance of any person acquainted with the transactions they refer to. In reply we beg to state, that consequent on a dispute between Shet Wukutchund, regarding the share reserved to us by the farm, we complained against him in Sr. 1892, and our books were sent for to examine into the accounts between the Shet and this Durbar. On their being examined two items were discovered. At this time the inquiry into Chotum Lal's business was going forward: for these items the Shet's books were also sent for, and both books compared. In those of the firm one item was found in them credited to Chotum Lal Moteebhaee Khata, and another entitled "Lushkur Khuruch," camp expenses. On this the Political Agent inquired how the difference between the Durbar books and those of the firm should have arisen, and directed us to make rigid inquiry, and report thereon. On this we examined the Durbar Dufturee Mehta Dosa Jeyram, and instituted strict inquiry;

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

inquiry; but the Mehta declared that these items were not given to Mehta Chotum Lal. This we reported at the time, and the matter was not further inquired into. The writer of these books, Doso Mehta, has since died; and the books themselves have never been given back to us. From that day we never entertained any suspicion regarding these items.

(True translation.)

(signed) *G. L. Jacob,*
Acting Political Agent.

No. 28 of 1843.—Political Department.

No. 55. From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of Captain Jacob's letter, dated the 1st November last, No. 232, reporting that the Palitana Durbar is unable to furnish certain documents required in the re-investigation of the second charge of bribery preferred against Chotum Lall by Mr. Erskine, in 1838, and to refer you to my communication of the 21st ultimo, No. 3104, conveying the instructions of Government for your guidance in this case.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 7 January 1843.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 22 March 1843.

No. 13 of 1843.

No. 1173. From the Political Agent, Katewar, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st December last, No. 3104, directing me to investigate *de novo* the second charge against Chotum Lal Bapabhaee, of having received a gold chain from Ootum Gandee.

2. Enclosed are my proceedings in the case, from which you will perceive that there is not the slightest evidence to prove the charge. I have accordingly acquitted Chotum Lal Bapabhaee.

3. Although Mr. Erskine states in the 7th para. of his letter of the 12th October 1836, "I took the depositions of the widow of the ex-minister and of her son," the loss of the original Guzerattee documents, and the absence of all intimation on the English versions forming enclosure (B.) of the depositions having been made before him, or of oath having been administered, prevented me from making use of them as formal depositions before a competent authority, which I hope will meet the approval of Government.

4. The object of Government being solely to establish the guilt or inocence of the accused, I do not consider myself called on to make any further remarks on the case.

5. With reference to the last para. of your letter, I find that several of the documents forwarded to me are wanting in this office. I detain the volume, therefore, pending inquiry into the political charge, by the conclusion of which I hope the requisite extracts will have been completed.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

Kattewar Political Agency Office,
4 February 1843.

Enclosure to Government Letter, No. 13 of 1843.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

PROCEEDINGS of a Court of Inquiry held before *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar, this 3d day of February, A. D. 1843, pursuant to the directions of Government contained in Mr. Secretary Willoughby's Letter, No. 3104, dated 21 December 1842.

Chotum Lal Bapabhee, late Native Agent of the Katteewar Political Agency, is present, and is charged with having in the year Sumvut 1888 (A.D. 1831-32), received from Ootumchund Gandee, Ex-minister of the Porbunder State, a gold chain, weighing about 20 guddeeanas, and a sum of about 1,500 korees in cash, shortly after Ootumchund Gandee's release from confinement at Porbunder.

Chotum Lal Bapabhaee is asked whether he is guilty or not guilty; he pleads, Not guilty.

Moonshee Loolf Ullah Khan, and Munguljee Roopsee are called into Court.

A letter from Mr. Willoughby, dated 21st December 1842, No. 3104, Political Department, is read and recorded.

(No. 1.)

To *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of Captain Jacob's letter, No. 221, dated the 29th September last, submitting copies of the evidence of the persons named in the margin, connected with the charges of bribery preferred in 1838, by Mr. Erskine, then Political Agent in Katteewar, against Chotum Lal Bapabhaee, late native agent of the Rajkote Agency.

1. Wulludjee Ootumchund.
2. Rubba Ootumchund.
3. Dewan Ruggoonatnjee.

2. In reply, I am directed to request, that in compliance with the instructions contained in paras. 6 and 7, of the letter from the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated the 22d of March last, you will be pleased to investigate *de novo* the second charge against Chotum Lal, namely, of having received a gold chain from Ootum Gandy, as well as any other charge or charges against that individual which were not at the time disproved.

3. In order to facilitate this inquiry, I am desired to forward to you the original documents noted in the annexed list, connected with this case.

4. Adverting to the 3d para. of your letter, I am desired to convey to you the authority of Government to examine the widow of Ootum Ghandy by a commission.

5. The individual named Khiema Kotaree, has been requested through the senior magistrate of police to proceed to Rajkote, but should he decline to do so, that officer has been instructed to communicate his refusal to you, in order that you may prepare and forward a memorandum, containing interrogatories, so that he may examine that individual at Bombay.

6. In regard to the person named Munguljee Roopsee, alluded to in the 4th para. of your letter, I am directed to authorise you to summon that person from Cutch.

7. The magistrate of Surat has been requested to send to Rajkote the moonshee named Loolf Ali, in order that Munguljee Roopsee and this person may be confronted with those who now declare that they were compelled to give false evidence against Chotum Lall.

8. In conclusion, I am desired to request that the original documents accompanying this letter may be returned with your report.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 21 December 1842.

(No. 2.)

The Evidence of *Bhaee Luckmee*, Widow of Ootumchund Gandee; Caste Mor Waneea; aged about 40 years, dated St. 1899, Post Sood 11, or 9 Zilhej Hoojee 1258 (12th January 1843), taken by commission by His Highness the Nuwab, is read and recorded.

Question. Formerly in St. 1892 (A.D. 1836), did Mr. Erskine come to your house?—*Answer.* Yes, he came.

When he came did you write anything?—Munguljee himself had brought a writing with him.

What was the writing about?—When Mr. Erskine came to Koteeana, Munguljee was with him; and to visit me, he came to my house. I said to Munguljee, will our Porbundur business be settled? He said, ah! well, I will give a petition on the Porbundur business to the gentleman. Thus having said, he rose. I asked him to come and dine, and he consented and went away; afterwards at dinner time he came to my house, and desired me to affix my mark to a paper; I desired him to read the paper to me, but he said, it is concerning your Porbunder business; what can a woman understand of it; do you fancy there is any difference between your son, Rubba, and me; put your mark. I therefore affixed my mark; after this, Munguljee dined, and asked me to send Rubba with him to the Sahib, on which I sent him with Munguljee; after this Munguljee called the Sahib; I was sitting in the inner room (orda), and the Sahib sat in the outer one (osree); and the Sahib said to me, when you left Porbunder what expenses were you at? I replied that I did not know, and Munguljee said, I have a memorandum of it; the Sahib said, how is it that the Bahee says one thing and you another? he replied, Sahib, with me is the memorandum (yad); after he had said this, the Sahib rose and went away.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

When you wrote, who of the people of your house were present?—Munguljee himself brought it ready written to my house, and made me put my mark to it; at that time my son Rubba was sitting with me.

The deposition above written, as far as I know what passed, is true as I swear.

× Sign of *Bhaee Lukmee.*

(True translation.)

(signed) A. Malet, Political Agent.

Note.—A translation in Guzerattee of Lukmee Bhaee's evidence as contained in Mr. Erskine's letter of the 21st October 1836, was sent to the Nuwab of Joonaghur, with a request that he would obtain her answer as to its truth; the above questions were sent to be put to her, in case she should deny that evidence. She did deny it altogether, and the above deposition was then taken.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Munguljee Roopsee and Moonshee Loolf Ulah Khan, both state that the paper was written before her, and the moonshee says, the questions were put in English and explained to her by him, and written down by another, but both decline putting any question.

Chotum Lal declines putting any questions.

(No. 3.)

The evidence of *Kheema Jeooraj Kotaree*, taken on oath before the chief magistrate of police, and sent to me by him in a letter of the 17th January 1843, No. 31.

Question 1. On reference to the records of the Political Agency, it appears that on the 14th May 1836, Bhaee Lukmee, the widow of Ootum Gandee, stated that you were present when her husband, on his release from confinement at Poerbunder, took from her a gold chain weighing 20 gudeeanas, which, with a diamond ring and a sum of 2,000 korees, he gave to Chotum Lal Bappabhaee; and further, that you are informed of everything that occurred of this nature. You are therefore called on to state the particulars of this transaction, or anything of this nature that you may recollect?—*Answer.* I and Ootum Gandee were in confinement, and we both were released together on Kartucksood 11th of Sr. 1888. I do not know anything of the gold chain and diamond ring, said to have been taken by Ootum Gandee from his wife Luckmee, widow, nor do I know anything of 2,000 korees said to have been given by him to Chotum Lal Bappabhaee. As soon as I was released from confinement I was sent to Kootyana of Nabab, with Kheema and Ruttonjee, the sons of Ootum Gandee.

2. On the same date it also appears that Wullubjee Ootumchund deposed, that he obtained from you, at the time of his father's release from confinement at Porbunder, the sum of 1,500 korees, which he gave to his father, Ootum Gandee; state if you recollect this transaction, and the purpose to which the money was applied?—While I was at Kootyana, Wullubjee Ootumchund carried from my wife at Porbunder the sum of 800 or 1,000 korees, I do not recollect which; my wife told me this while I was at Kootyana. My wife paid the money without my order, and Ootumchund afterwards told me that his son got the money from my wife for their expenses.

(signed) *Khanjee Jewrojkotaree.*
(signed) *A. Malet*, Pol^{l}. Agent.

Sworn to before me this day, 13th day of January 1843.

(signed) *P. W. Le Geyt,*
Justice of the Peace.

Chotum Lal declines putting any questions.

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3 February 1843.

No. 4.

Rubbo Ootumchund, Caste Buneea, age 18 or 19, Inhabitant at present of Joonaghur, in the service of the Nuwab, is called, and, being duly sworn and admonished, deposes as follows:

Question. Your mother mentions your name as having been present when she signed a paper brought by Munguljee Roopsee; state, therefore, what you know regarding a gold chain, said to have been given by your father to Chotum Lal Bappabhaee?—*Answer.* Mr. Erskine came to Roteeana, and with him Munguljee. Munguljee was in my father's service in Porbunder, and therefore came to visit my mother, who said, you were at Porbunder; well, he replied, about Porbunder, we will petition the Sahib; he was then leaving, and my mother requested him to stay and dine. He came and dined, bringing with him a paper, and desired my mother to sign it. She said, "read it;" he replied, "it is concerning your Porbunder affair; I will not injure your business;" on this she signed it, and Munguljee rose to go away, and she said, take him with you to the Saheb. I went with him, and made my salaam, and the Saheb came to our house with me; the moonshee and Munguljee and my mother was sitting in the orda,* and the Sahib in the osree pursal.† The Sahib said, "what expenses were you at when you came from Porbunder?" She replied, "I do not know." The Sahib said, "Munguljee, you said so; how is it the Bhaee speaks thus?" Munguljee then showed the paper, and said, "this is the paper of it;" on this the Sahib rose. This I know.

* Inner apartment.
† Verandah.

You

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

You saw your mother sign the paper; do you know what were its contents?—No.

Did you never hear what was written in that paper?—No.

More than you have above stated, did any conversation pass with your mother when Mr. Erskine was at your house?—No.

Who spoke to your mother?—I had gone to call Wullubjee, my brother, therefore I was not present; my mother told me.

Did not your mother say who conversed with her?—She said the Sahib asked her.

When the Sahib came to your house, did you immediately go and call Wullubjee?—Yes.

Where was Wullubjee when you went to call him?—He was at his shop in the bazar.

How far is that from your mother's house?—About the same distance as Mooloo Wala's place is from this (about 300 yards).

Did you go there at once?—Yes.

Did your brother return with you immediately?—Yes.

When you returned with Wullubjee, was the Sahib still at your house?—Yes.

After that, how long did he remain?—Having made Wullubjee sign he went away. I was not close, but Wullubjee told me: I was in the angnee;* I could not see where the Sahib was sitting.

* Porch.

When you and Wullubjee returned, did you hear the hum of conversation?—No.

You state that Wullubjee signed the paper; was it read to him?—Wullubjee said it was not read to him.

Where is your mother a native of?—Porbunder.

Does she understand any language but Guzerattee?—She can understand a little of the Sipahee language, but cannot speak it.

When your brother came with you, did he go in and make his salam to Mr. Erskine?—I do not know.

Who did he first speak to?—I do not know, but Wullubjee told me that he had spoken with Munguljee, and the moonshee who took his signature.

You say he had not heard the contents of the paper, how then would he sign it?—He only can tell.

When you went with Munguljee to Mr. Erskine, what did that gentleman say to you?—Nothing, I stood afar off.

What time did the conversation at that time between Munguljee and Mr. Erskine occupy?—About a minute; Munguljee spoke in a low voice; I do not recollect that the Sahib said anything.

When Mr. Erskine had left the house, did any conversation take place concerning the paper?—Yes, some of our people asked my mother and brother what they had written; my mother said that she did not know; that she was told it was about the Porbundur affair, so she signed it. My brother also said he knew nothing about it, therefore my brother Jeewun was sent to get a copy; he went one march; Roojnath went with him, but he did not get a copy.

By *Moonshee Lootf Attah.*] What was your age at that time?—About 11 or 12 years.

Munguljee Roopsee declines questioning him. Chotum Lal declines any question.

Witness signs the paper, and withdraws.

Taken on oath before me this 3d day of February 1843.

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

(No. 5.)

Wulubjee Ootumchund, Caste Buneea; age 27 or 28; inhabitant at present of Joonaghur, in the service of Jubber Shet, is called; and being duly sworn and admonished, deposes as follows:

Question. It appears from your brother's evidence that you signed a paper at your mother's house in the presence of Mr. Erskine; state what you know concerning this?—*Answer.* I signed; I was in the bazar; Mr. Erskine came to the house, and Kubba came and called me, and I went there; Mr. Erskine was sitting in a chair in the pursal, and the moonshee and Munguljee were sitting near the outside door of it. Munguljee said this paper concerns your Porbundur business; your mother has signed it, do you sign it, and your business will be done; the paper was closed; I signed it, and the gentleman rose and went, and Munguljee and the moonshee went with him. After this, my mother asked me what have you written: I said it is on our Porbundur business, and I asked her, and she said she did not know what was written; I said some day, if we shall be asked about this, what answer shall we give; so we sent my brother Jeewun one march to bring a copy, but he did not bring back any copy.

Do you know anything of a gold chain or money being given to Chatum Lal?—No.

Did you never hear your mother speak of these things having been given?—No.

Soon after your father was released at Porbundur, did you obtain money from any one?—No, from no one.

After your father's release where did he get money for your expenses?—I do not know where he got the money; I was not of consequence enough to be spoken to on such matters.

Did you ever obtain any money from Kheema Kotaree?—No.

Did you ever obtain money from Kheema Kotaree's wife?—No.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar

When your father was released, did he first go to Koteeana, or did all your family go together?—We all went together.

After Kheema Kotaree had gone to Koteeana, did you receive any money from his wife?—No.

Kheema Kotaree in his evidence states, that you receive from his wife the sum of 800 or 1,000 korees; how is this that you deny it?—I know nothing of it, and never received it.

When you returned from the bazar with Rubba, did he enter the house with you?—I went in before him, so I do not know where he staid.

When you entered the house was any conversation going on?—I did not hear any.

You say Munguljee caused you to sign the paper; at that time did Mr. Erskine say anything?—No, I did not hear him speak.

When Munguljee told you to sign a paper, how was it that you consented without knowing its contents?—My mother had signed it; I was told that it was on our Porbundur business, and the Sahib was sitting there; why should I not sign it.

Had you any conversation with your mother before, concerning arrangements that Munguljee was to make for your Porbundur affair?—I lived separately, so I had no conversation on this subject: my brother called me, and I came.

After Mr. Erskine had left the house, what occurred?—I asked my mother what she had signed; she said it is about our Porbundur business; we sent for the copy, which we did not get.

Your brother returned without the copy; what happened after that?—Nothing; what could be done.

By *Munguljee Roopsee.*] You state the moonshee and I were with the sahib; was any one else there?—No, only three altogether.

By *Moonshee Loolf Allee.*] Is it customary amongst sowkars to sign a paper without knowing its contents?—I was young and inexperienced in business with the Government, and I signed it relying on Munguljee and my mother's signature.

Can your mother write?—She had made her mark, and Munguljee told me that my mother had signed.

By the *Court.*] Does your mother understand any language but Guzerattee?—No.

If any should speak to her in Sipahee language, could she not answer in Guzerattee?—No, she does not understand it.

Did your mother ever tell you whether she spoke with Mr. Erskine, or Lootf Alli, or Munguljee?—No; I never asked, nor did she ever tell me.

Did you never ask your mother why she signed the paper, without knowing its contents?—No.

Did your mother never mention what conversation took place between her and the sahib, and Munguljee Roopsee and Moonshee Lootf Ullah?—No, never; we did not converse on it.

When did you become aware of the contents of the paper?—When Captain Jacob told me.

Your mother and you thought that your Porbunder affairs were to be settled by this; when you found it was not so, did you make no inquiry?—Who was there to make a fuss about it; our affairs were ruined, how could we stir in it?

Captain Jacob informed you of the contents of the paper; what do you now know of it?—Captain Jacob told me that it was concerning a chain given to Chotum Lall, about which I know nothing.

Do you know that your mother had a gold chain weighing 20 guddeeanas?—No, I know nothing about it.

By *Moonshee Lootf Ullah.*] That paper you signed, by whom had it been written?—I cannot say with any certainty, but I believe it was Munguljee's writing.

When you came, did you observe any pens, ink, and paper there; and the paper you signed, do you swear that neither you nor any other took a copy of it in any book?—All that I know is, that Munguljee had pen, ink, and paper, and that I merely signed; no one took a copy, and the Sahib left immediately.

When your brother Jeewun could get no copy, why did you not petition the Political Agent?—I was altogether inexperienced in business with the sirkar, and had much to do to gain a livelihood; what could I do?

Chotum Lal declines questioning him.

Witness signs his deposition, and withdraws.

Taken on oath before me this 3d day of February 1843.

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

(No. 6.)

Dhuvan Roognathjee, Caste Mor Buneea, age 40, inhabitant of Koteeana, in the service of Nathoo Khan Sirdar, at Junaghur, is called; and being duly sworn and admonished, deposes as follows:—

Question. You deposed before Mr. Erskine that you went with Ootumchund Gandee to Chotum Lal, and that Ootumchund gave to Chotum Lal a gold chain weighing 20 gudeeanas; what do you know of this?—*Answer.* I had in 1891 taken in farm the village of Ghoolrama for two years; the first year was frost; I suffered loss therefore, but kept it on

in

in hope of regaining it for 1892; but that year, on account of loss and kherun beebee, the owner of the village sent a meeana mohsul on me. I therefore went to Rajkote, and put up at Munguljee's house; he was not then at home, but in the evening came home. At that time I met him, but we had no conversation; in the morning I told him the state I was in, and asked him to petition the Sirkar for me; he said he would go to the moonshee and consult, and would then speak to me. Four or five days afterwards he took me to the moonshee's house near the gaol; he told the moonshee, "Here is Ootumchund Gandee's nephew after about a ghurree trose," and went away. When Munguljee came home, I asked him what was done; he said, "I will mention it at a fitting time." About 12 days afterwards Munguljee said that the moonshee said, "I must write something about the gold chain, and then your business shall be done, and the Porbundur affair settled." I said, "How can I write?" He said, "If you write, your affairs will go well." I asked, "What am I to write?" He said, "As the moonshee directs." So he took me to the moonshee's house; he was in the orda,* and he brought out writing materials, and I wrote as he said. I said, "I write, but I cannot stand being examined." On this he said, "There is no need; this affair will rest here." I afterwards asked if my own affairs would be settled; he said, "Yes." I then remained 15 or 20 days more, but my affairs were not arranged. There was a dispute with me about my dinner, and Munguljee would not give me to eat, and I went into the service of Ramajee, of the Porbundur Bhayad, and got food from him, which was cooked for me at Munguljee's house. I stayed at his house one or three months; then Mr. Erskine went to Hullar and Porbundur. Munguljee told me to go there, and I went thither with Ramajee; I remained there 11 days, and then went to Koteeana; nothing was done for me, the Sahib had gone to Bombay.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

* Inner apartment.

You state that what you deposed to before Mr. Erskine was false; how am I to believe that false, and this true?—I never deposed to anything before Mr. Erskine, nor ever spoke to him.

Your former writing is in the shape of a deposition before Mr. Erskine?—I was ill at the time, and cannot recollect what or how it was written.

You state you remember where you went to write; how is it that you cannot remember what you wrote?—I cannot recollect; Captain Jacob asked me, and I gave the same answers.

Were you at Porbundur when Ootum Gandee was released?—Yes; when he was released I remained eight days with him.

Did you ever go with Ootum Gandee to Chotum Lal?—No, I never went; I did not even know Chotum Lal.

Do you know that Ootumchund gave a gold chain to Chotum Lal?—No; Mr. Willoughby released him; why should he give it?

You state that you went with Munguljee to the moonshee's; did you hear the conversation between them?—No, I did not hear.

When you went to the moonshee's house, did you see him?—Yes, he was sitting on a chair; I saw him.

Did Munguljee alone cause you to write?—Yes.

When it was written, was it read over to the moonshee?—Munguljee took it into the orda; I know not whether it was read to him or not.

By *Munguljee.*] Do you perfectly remember my taking you to the moonshee's house, and making you write?—Yes, perfectly.

Recollect yourself whether or not I did not go away on business, and Mr. Erskine sent for you, and examined you?—No, you dictated, and I wrote.

I was sent on business; did you not remain with the moonshee and carry on the business?—You were afterwards sent to Dussora, and told me to remain with the moonshee.

The moonshee declines questioning witness.

Chotum Lall declines questioning the witness.

Do you swear that no one has told you, either directly or indirectly, what evidence you are to give?—No one has in any way told me what evidence to give.

Have you any hope of profiting by the evidence you have now given?—None whatever.

Witness signs his deposition and withdraws.

Taken on oath before me this 3d day of February 1843.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

(No. 7.)

Moonshee *Looft Ullah Khan* is told that the witnesses have now been confronted with him, and he has heard their evidence, and has been required to cross-examine them. If he wishes to mention anything concerning his part in the business, he is at liberty, but not obliged to do so; he states as follows:—

I cannot swear to my recollection of the business; but what little I remember I will tell you. In Ootum Gandee's business, Dhuwan was the first person who mentioned it; and I believe that Mr. Gillies examined into it. I went to Koteeana with Mr. Erskine, and when the lushkur* left it at 4 p.m., the Political Agent and I and one or two others went to Ootum Gandee's house, and the Sahib held a conversation with his widow; and it was written, but by whom I know not, and the Sahib went away as did I; this much I remember. I was a person subordinately employed in writing and translating only, not a responsible man.

* Political Agent's Camp.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

Munguljee Roopsee is then informed to the same effect, but declines saying anything.

There is a discrepancy between the evidence of Kheema Kotaree and Wullubjee Ootumchund relative to the money borrowed from Keema's wife; but it does not affect their depositions as they bear on the subject before the Court.

There is no material deviation in the deposition of the witnesses from what they stated before Captain Jacob in his preliminary inquiry; nor do I see any reason to doubt the general facts of the case as detailed by them. According to the evidence, there is no proof whatever of charge against Chotum Lal, and he is informed that a report to this effect will be transmitted to Government.

[The Court is dissolved.

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Kattywar Political Agency,
Rajkote, 3 February 1843.

No. 603 of 1843.—Political Department.

From the Secretary to the Government of Bombay to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 13, dated the 4th ultimo, forwarding your proceedings in the re-investigation of the second charge of bribery, preferred in 1838 by Mr. Erskine, then Political Agent in Katteewar, against Chotum Lall Bappabaee, late native agent of the Rajkote Agency.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you, that before coming to any decision in this case, Government will await the further report promised in the 5th para. of your letter.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 17 March 1843.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 29 March 1843.

No. 6 of 1843.—Political Department.

No. 1246.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

Forwards for instruction petition of Lootfallah Khan, of Surat, stating that he has incurred considerable loss and expense in having attended as an evidence to this agency, and soliciting, therefore, a higher rate of allowance than that usually assigned to witnesses.

1. I HAVE the honour to forward a petition from Lootf Allee Khan, sent from Surat on your letter to the address of Sir R. K. Arbuthnot, dated 21st ultimo, No. 3106, in which he requests allowance for his travelling expenses and compensation for loss of time.

2. I cannot find any order allowing larger sums than 2 annas per diem for witnesses; I therefore am obliged to trespass on your time, and to request the orders of Government on the subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar, Political Agency, Rajkote,
23 January 1843.

To *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Kattewar, Rajcote.

Honoured Sir,

ONCE more I take the liberty of trespassing upon your time, respectfully begging your forgiveness for the same.

2. In answer to my memorial of the 14th inst., representing the difficulties that I had experienced during my journey from Gogo to Rajkote in the state of ill-health and the pecuniary loss that I had sustained in consequence, I am sorry to see from your reply of the 16th instant that you cannot allow me more than the "regulated" sum of 2 annas daily during

during my journey to and from Surat and my stay here. But I beg leave to observe, that the sum alluded to cannot be a regulated sum for the persons of all ranks. Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

3. Previous to my having left Surat, I had the honour of discussing the point with the magistrate himself, who, in my presence, having interrogated his surrishtedar upon the subject, was answered, that a Banian, having formerly been sent to Rajkote, had received at the rate of 6 annas per diem, and the cart hire, &c., for his egress and ingress. To this I rejoined, that I, being a Moslem, cannot live upon mere vegetable food, and consequently 6 annas were insufficient for me; upon which Sir R. Arbuthnot told me that my travelling charges suitable to my respectability will be paid by the Political Agent; and himself ordered the sum of 2 rupees to be paid for my freight; whereas the boat-hire from Surat to Gogo for a common individual is no more than 6 annas.

4. I therefore most humbly beg of your Honour to order an adequate compensation for the damage I have incurred according to the memorial herewith subjoined; and it is more than probable that an inquiry in the native records here will prove to you that a respectable person of Bombay having formerly been sent for hire as a witness, had been proportionably paid for his travelling charges. Notwithstanding this, should there still appear the matter dubious, it may be referred to the Honourable Government; and I am sure it will not allow its faithful and honest subjects to suffer any loss whilst employed to perform their duty towards it; and amongst whom is,

Honoured Sir, &c.
(signed) *Looft Allah Khan*, Moonshee.

Rajkote, 21 January 1843.

MEMORANDUM.

	Rs.	a.	p.
Hire of two carts from Gogo to Rajkote, 8 rupees each - -	16	–	–
Ditto from Rajkote to Gogo - - - - - - -	16	–	–
Boat-hire from Gogo to Surat - - - - - -	2	–	–
Average of table expense for one month at 8 annas a day -	15	–	–
Loss of ditto allowed, if remained in Surat - - - -	15	–	–
Deprived of attending one Arabic scholar two hours a day -	30	–	–
TOTAL Ninety-four Rupees - - -	94	–	–

(signed) *Looft Allah.*

(True copy.)
(signed) A. Malet, Political Agent.

No. 1360 of 1842-43.

REPORT from the Civil Auditor.

No. 1247.

THE Civil Auditor begs to state, for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council, that Lootfallah Khan, the party in question, is entitled to subsistence allowance, not exceeding one quarter of a rupee per diem, while on his journey to and from Surat, and for the period he was detained at Rajcote, agreeably to clause 9, chapter 6, of Regulation XIII, of 1827.

(signed) *E. E. Elliot,*
Civil Auditor.

Bombay Castle, Civil Auditor's Office,
21 February 1843.

No. 656 of 1843.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar. No. 1248.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 8, dated the 23d of January last, forwarding a copy of petition from Looftallahkhan, soliciting a higher rate of allowance than two annas per diem, and in reply, to inform you that the Honourable the Governor in Council is pleased to authorise batta being paid to that individual at the rate of four annas per diem.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Sec. to Govt.

Bombay Castle,
23 February 1843.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 12 April 1843.

No. 1392.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government.

Sir,

1. I HAVE the honour, with reference to your letter of the 7th January last, No. 23, to transmit my proceedings with enclosures in the case of the accusation against Chotum Lal Bappabhye, of having received from the Palitana farmer, in the year 1880, 540 rupees as sookree, and 500 rupees in the year 1884, on the same account.

2. You will observe, that in the enclosures (C.) in Mr. Erskine's letter of the 12th October 1836, in the thacor's chopras for 1880, Chotumlal's name is not mentioned in that for 1884. Chota Lal is mentioned, but that also is insuffi cient, and they are not authenticated as true translations.

3. Suspicion is raised by the absence of the original chopras, sent by the farmer, having been withdrawn; but from all the inquiries I have made, I cannot find that they were ever placed in the Political Agent's duftur; so that unless they have been accidentally mislaid, the suspicion must attach itself to those who originated the accusation, not to Chotum Lal.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency, Rajkote,
9 March 1843.

Enclosure to Government, No. 28 of 1843.

PROCEEDINGS held before *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar, in a Court of Inquiry, as directed in Mr. Secretary *Willoughby*'s Letters, dated 7th January 1843, No.23, Political Department, and 21st December 1842, No. 3104, Political Department.

Chotum Lal Bapabhaee, late native agent of the Kattewar Political Agency, is present, and is charged with having received the sum of 540 rupees from the Palitana farmer, in the year Sumvut 1880 (A. D. 1823 or 1824), under the specification of sookree, and with having received the sum of 500 rupees from the Palitana farmer, in the year Sumvut 1884 (A. D. 1827 or 1828), under the specification of sookree.

Chotum Lal Bapabhaee is asked whether he is guilty or not guilty? He pleads, Not guilty.

Read, a letter from Mr. Secretary Willoughby, dated 7th January 1843, No. 28, recorded as No. 1.

Read, a letter from Mr. Secretary Willoughby, dated 21st December 1842, No. 3104, recorded as No. 2.

Read, a draft of a letter from Captain Jacob, to the Thakor of Palitana, dated 20th September 1842, recorded, No. 3, as follows:

"You complained against Shet Wukutchund, and in your chopras, which were produced, there appeared that sookree was paid to Chotum Lal in 1880 and 1884. Now, I am to investigate this business; therefore let the chopras for those two years, and any persons acquainted with this transaction, be quickly sent to me."

Read and recorded, reply of the thakor to the above date, Asoo Shood 2d, 1898, No. 4.

From *Gohel Noghunjee* and *Koour Purtab Sing*, of Bhownuggur.

"Your order, which was written on the 20th September, has been received; we write that you have required a man acquainted with the affair, and the chopras for 1880/84, in which, when we complained against Wukutchund, sookree appeared paid to Chotum Lal. As you are investigating the case,—

"We reply, there was a dispute with Shet Wukutchund concerning the farm, and in 1892 we complained against him, at which time inquiries were made, and our chopras were required; we sent them, and two items appeared. At that time there were complaints against Chotum Lal; and with reference to those two items, the shet's chopras were required and sent in, and in them one item to Chotum Lal Moteebhye, and another for Luskur Khurch appeared in them, and I was directed to explain how the difference arose. On this I inquired of Mehta Dosa Jairam, and made inquiry. These items were not paid to Chotum Lal: this was evident to us thus. We now state that this affair has not been agitated since that time, and the Mehta above-mentioned who wrote the chopras is dead, and the chopras which were sent to the Sirkar have never been returned to me, and I have not the slightest suspicion concerning these items.—1898, Assoo Shood 2d."

As

As the thakor cannot produce the original chopras, the English translations of them, marked (C.) in the Political Agent's letter to Government, dated 12th October 1836, No. 355, are produced. Guzerathe translations are read and recorded. Nos. 5 and 6.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

No. 7.

The Manager of the Palitana Farm, Motee Mulsopchund, aged 56, Waneea Versaooswar Heemabhy, Shet's Gomashta, Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, being duly sworn and admonished, deposes:

Question. You have heard read a translation of the English translation of the Palitana Thakor's chopras, for the year 1880, in which a sum of 540 rupees is entered as sookree to Chotabhye; what do you know of this?—*Answer.* I know nothing about it.

Do you know anything of a person named Chotabhye?—My shet has a son named Chotabyhe Moteebhoye.

Do you know whether in the year 1880 any money was paid to Choteebhoy Moteebhye?—Yes, in 1880, 500 rupees were paid to him as seerpaoo, when the shet came on a pilgrimage to Palitana; the durbar gave it on occasion of the durbar coming to dine with him.

Thus you account for 500 rupees, but 40 rupees still remains; how do you account for that?—I do not remember, but you will find it from my chopras.

(The farmer's chopras are examined, and the amount of 500 rupees to Chotabhye Motabhye appears in them, as well as 40 rupees to Anopsha.) I now recollect this, the Thakor gave it on the same occasion as the above.

Do you recollect whether any money was paid to Chotum Lal Bappobhye in that year?—No, I know that nothing was paid to him.

You have heard read a Guzerattee translation of an English translation of the Palitana Thakor's duftur for 1884, in which there is an item entered, "Mehta Chota Lal, sookree, 500 rupees;" what do you know of this?—There was an item of 500 rupees paid to Waljee Gomashta for sundry expenses in that year, but I know nothing of any payment to Chota Lal.

Do you know who is meant in the Thakor's chopras by Chota Lall?—No, I do not know any one, nor why the name has been entered.

Was this money paid to Waljee Gomashta himself, or to any one else on his account?—To Waljee himself.

Who is Waljee, and where is he now?—He is my gomashta, and is now at Palitana.

Do you remember whether, for sookree or any other account, any money was paid in that year to Chotum Lal Bappobhye?—No, I do not remember that any money whatever was paid to him.

In whose handwriting is this chopra?—In that of Jeewun Paricks, my gomashta.

These two leaves for 1880 and 1884, is there any difference in them, and are they also in his handwriting?—No, there is no difference; they are in his handwriting.

(No. 8.)

Jeewun Mukoondass, aged 61, Waneea Kupor, in the service of Shet Wukutchund, Inhabitant of Palitana, is called, and being duly sworn and admonished, deposes as follows:

The Guzerattee translation of the English translation of the Thakor's chopras are read to him.

Question. In this you perceive an item of 540 rupees given as sookree to Chotabhye; who is Chotabhye, and why was this given?—*Answer.* I do not know anything of it; the only person I know of that name is my shet's son.

Was any sookree given to the shet's son in that year?—The shet came with a sung, and 500 rupees were given as sirpao to him, but I do not know anything about the remaining 40 rupees; it will, I suppose, be found in the chopras.

The Guzerattee translation from the English translation of the thakor's chopras for 1884, is read to him.

Question. What do you know of the item of 500 rupees, marked Chota Lall's sookree?—*Answer.* I know nothing of it.

Do you know any one of the name of Chota Lall?—No.

Do you know anything of money having been paid to Chotum Lal Bappoobhye in that year?—No.

Who wrote the Izaradar's chopras for 1880-84?—I was the writer of those chopras, and Motee Sha of others; I can tell when I see them.

The chopras in question are shown to him, and he is asked if they are in his writing?—Yes, these chopras are written by me.

Observe particularly the chopras for 1880 and 1884, and state if you wrote them?—Yes, they are both written by me.

Were they written by you in their proper order, or at a subsequent period?—The detailed chopras were written regularly, and these were written when the durbar people came to make up the accounts at the end of the year.

Examine these two years' chopras carefully, and state if any alteration or addition has been made since the original entry?—They are perfect; there has been nothing done to them.

[Witness withdraws.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

Chotum Lall Bappabhye not being in any way implicated, either by the documents or evidence, is not called on for any defence; he is told that the Thakor's chopras are not forthcoming, and there is no proof of the charges brought against him, and that a report to this effect will be made to Government.

He states that at the former investigation he was not confronted with anybody, and had no opportunity given him of clearing himself.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

No. 1393. MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Board.

MR. MALET has omitted to return with this report the original documents forwarded to him with the Government letter dated the 21st December last, and he should be directed to supply this omission as soon as possible, in order that Government may decide upon this case.

(signed) *Geo. Arthur.*
T. M'Mahon.
G. W. Anderson.

27 March 1843.

No. 732 of 1843.—Political Department.

No. 1394. From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar, Rajcote.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 9th ultimo, No. 28, submitting your proceedings in the case of Chotum Lal Bappabhye, late native agent to the Rajcote Agency, charged with having received two sums of money as sookree from the Palitana farmer.

2. As you have omitted to return with this report the original documents forwarded to you with my letter dated the 21st December last, No. 3104, you are requested to supply the omission as soon as possible, in order that Government may decide upon this case.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
6 April 1843.

No. 4 of 1843.—Political Department.

No. 1395. From *R. K. Arbuthnot*, Esq., Magistrate, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

IN reference to your letter of the 21st December last, No. 3106, I have the honour to forward a bill for passage-money for conveying Lootfali and a peon from Surat to Gogo, and request you will have the goodness to obtain the sanction of the Honourable the Governor in Council for payment of the same.

I have, &c.
(signed) *R. K. Arbuthnot*,
Magistrate.

Zilla Magistrate's Office, Surat,
11 March 1843.

The East India Company, *Dr.*

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

	Rs.	*a.*	*p.*
To amount of passage-money paid for conveying Lootfali and a peon from Surat to Gogo, as per Government order, dated 21st December last, No. 3106 - - - - - - - - - - - -	2	–	–
To ditto - for conveying the peon from Gogo to Surat, on his return from Rajcote - - - - - - - - - - - -	–	12	–
Rs.	2	12	–

(Errors excepted, and contents received.)

Surat, 28 February 1843. *Nowneedarai Gunairsdeam.*

I do hereby declare, that the above charges are just and correct, and that the same have been or will be paid as herein set forth.

(signed) *R. K. Arbuthnot*, Magistrate.

No. 733 of 1843.—Political Department.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to Sir *R. K. Arbuthnot*, Bart., Magistrate of Surat. No. 1396.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 10th ultimo, No. 4, and to inform you that the bill which accompanied it, for charges incurred in conveying the Moonshee Lootf Ali and a peon from Surat to Gogo, amounting to 2 rupees and 12 annas, has been passed by the Honourable the Governor in Council, and sent to the Civil Auditor.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle, 6 April 1843. (signed) *J. P. Willoughby*, Secretary to Government.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 12 July 1843.

No. 44 of 1843.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay. No. 3044.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant, No. 732.

2. In returning the original documents, forwarded with your letter of the 21st December last, No. 3104, and while apologising for the delay, I beg to state that my incomplete establishment has had to copy no less than 235 pages, which were wanting to complete the records of this office.

I have, &c.

Katteewar Political Agency, Camp Wudwan, 14 April 1843. (signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Board.

1. CHOTUM LALL BAPPABHOY was formerly native agent in the office of the Political Agent in Katteewar. Chotum Lall was suspended from his situation on the 27th July 1846, in consequence of suspicions which Mr. Erskine, the then Political Agent, entertained of that individual having received certain bribes, and, on the 12th October following, Mr. Erskine submitted the result of his inquiries into the charges against Chotum Lall.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

2. The charges preferred by Mr. Erskine against Chotum Lall were four in number.

1st. Having received a set of pooja materials from a person named Rowjee Bapoojee.

2d. Having received a gold chain, the weight of 20 gudyanas (value not mentioned), from Outum Ganday, ex-Minister of the Porebunder state.

3d. Having received 540 rupees in 1823–24, and 500 rupees in 1827–28, as sookree (a present) from the Palitana state.

4th. Having received the sum of 300 rupees as a bribe to conceal his knowledge of the parties concerned in a very serious and extensive robbery committed in 1832, at the village of Moonjepoor, to the Dussara talooka in Katteewar.

Having received a set of pooja materials from a person named Rowjee Bapoojee.

3. The first of these charges was supported by the following evidence. An individual, named Rowjee Bappoojee, stated, that experiencing some difficulty in obtaining a settlement of "long-standing claims he had against some Grassiahs of Umrellee," he offered certain silver pooja articles to Chotum Lall, as a present, and understood that they had been accepted as such. In his defence, Chotum Lall stated that Rowjee Bappoojee had volunteered to get the articles made for him, and that he had received them with the intention of paying for them; and that the delay in making payment had been occasioned by Rowjee's not naming the price, although he had repeatedly requested him to do so. Rowjee Bappoojee denied the truth of this statement, and asserted that the present had been made by him to Chotum Lall on the 22d August 1833, but that tender of payment had not been made by that individual until the 13th June 1836.

4. On a perusal of the evidence produced in support of this charge, this Government was of opinion that an unpleasant degree of suspicion existed against Chotum Lall, but that the charge was not established against the individual, and therefore acquitted Chotum Lall of this charge.

Having received a gold chain of the weight of 20 gudynas, value not mentioned, from Otum Gandy, ex-Minister of the Porebunder State.

5. The second charge was supported by the following evidence. The widow of Otum Ganday (ex-Minister of Porebunder) stated that, when her husband was released from confinement through the intervention of Mr. Willoughby, when Political Agent in Katteewar, her husband took from her a gold chain, of the weight of 20 gudyanas, and said that it was intended as a present for Chotum Lall. Her son, on examination, said nothing about the chain, but stated that 200 corees were given by Outum Gaudy to a chobdar and jemedar; and Mr. Erskine reported that these persons acknowledged the receipt of the money. The nephew of the widow stated that he accompanied his uncle when he took the chain to Chotum Lall's house; that he himself remained on the outside, but Otum Gandy went in, and returned without the chain; that he asked his uncle to whom he had given it, but had received no answer. The widow referred to a person named Kheema Kotaree as having been present when her husband took the chain from her, but Mr. Erskine did not appear to have examined him. Chotum Lall peremptorily denied the charge, but produced no evidence in support of his innocence.

6. No proof having been adduced that the chain was actually given to Chotum Lall, or that it was ever in his possession, and nothing more having been proved than that Otum Gandy carried the chain to Chotum Lall's house, and was seen returning without it, this Government was of opinion that this charge had not been substantiated, although the circumstances of the case necessarily engendered suspicion, but nothing more, and that the evidence in support of the charge was insufficient for conviction.

Having received 540 rupees in 1823/24, and 500 rupees in 1827/28, as sookree (a present) from the Palitana State.

7. The third charge was founded on the discovery of two items in certain chopras (or books) of accounts produced by the thakoor of Palitana. The first was an entry of 540 rupees on account of Mehta Chota Baee's sookree (or present), for Sumvut 1880 (A. D. 1823-24), and the other an entry of 500 rupees, on the same account, for Sumvut 1884, (A. D. 1827–28). Palitana being under farm to Wuckulshah Heemabhoy, one of the most wealthy and respectable bankers of Guzerat, and the farmer's books being the originals from which the chief's accounts were copied; Mr. Erskine stated that he had demanded the latter books for the purpose of comparison, but that this demand had been long met

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

met by evasion, and that on the books being subsequently produced, it appeared that the entries which should have corresponded with the suspicious ones in the chief's accounts had been falsified, and that the fraud had been so imperfectly executed as to confirm the entries in those accounts.

8. On the whole, this Government did not consider that this charge had been sufficiently sifted, and decided that, although the circumstances of the case were full of suspicion, the guilt of Chotum Lall could not be considered as actually proved.

Having received the sum of 300 rupees as a bribe to conceal his knowledge of the parties concerned in a very serious and extensive robbery, committed, in January 1832, at the village of Moonjipoor, in the Dussara talooka, in Kattywar.

9. In regard to the fourth charge, various discrepancies existed in the evidence, and as this Government considered that doubt could never be wholly excluded from a case in which reliance must be placed on native testimony, and that too the testimony of confessed delinquents, this charge was regarded by this Government rather as one of vehement and scarcely conquerable suspicion against Chotum Lall, than one of positive conviction.

10. On a review of the whole of the proceedings submitted by Mr. Erskine, Government resolved that Chotum Lall should be dismissed from his situation, on account of the very strong suspicions which attached to him of his being guilty of the charges brought against him; but in consideration of the possible doubt which existed of his innocence, Government did not deem it expedient to adopt the recommendation made by Mr. Erskine, of dismissing Chotum Lall with disgrace, and determined to postpone for future consideration the propriety or otherwise of hereafter employing him elsewhere, in some inferior situation. Orders to this effect were issued by Government on the 11th November 1837.

11. These proceedings were reported to the Honourable the Court of Directors, on the 14th May 1838, and in reply, that authority, in a despatch dated the 21st August 1839, observed as follows: "The charges against Chotum Lall you considered as not so fully made out, and though he was dismissed from his situation, you consider him as not excluded from holding some other appointment under your Government; but we desire that if he be employed at all, it be only in a subordinate situation."

12. On the 17th January 1838, Chotum Lall presented a petition to Government, in which he strongly protested his innocence of the whole of the charges which had been preferred against him by Mr. Erskine, and solicited that a re-investigation of his case might be entered into. The petition of this individual was, on the 10th March following, referred to Mr. Erskine for any observations he might have to offer; and as it appeared from Mr. Erskine's reply, dated the 28th September following, that Chotum Lall had not been present to defend himself when the fourth charge against him was investigated by Mr. Erskine, this Government was of opinion that it would be only just to give that individual a re-hearing on that charge.

13. In coming to the resolution of giving Chotum Lall a re-hearing on this charge, this Government had no intention of restoring him to his former situation in Kattywar, should he, on a further inquiry, be able to exonerate himself from the imputation; but it appeared to Government that, if the result of that inquiry should be entirely favourable to that individual, it would more clearly open the way of his admission to employment in some other department under Government, and that if, on the other hand, the result of a re-investigation of this charge should be unfavourable to him, it would place him in a more unequivocal position than before, and afford grounds for his entire exclusion from future employment in the public service.

14. Under all the circumstances of the case, Government was of opinion that it should not be desirable to employ Mr. Erskine to conduct the re-investigation of this charge, and as Mr. Giberne, then Judicial Commissioner for the Deccan and Concan, was at that time on the point of proceeding on circuit to Dhoolka and Goga, it was determined to confide this duty to that gentleman, and on the 25th November 1838 Mr. Giberne was directed, during his approaching circuit, to visit Rajkote for that purpose.

15. The proceedings adopted by Mr. Giberne in the re-investigation of this (the fourth) charge, produced a conviction on the minds of this Government,

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

that Chotum Lall was not guilty of having received the bribe imputed to him, and he was therefore fully acquitted of that charge.

16. In communicating this decision to Mr. Erskine, on the 22d May 1839, he was informed that as Chotum Lall had not been found guilty of any of the charges which had been preferred against him, although his conduct was still open to strong suspicion, Government considered it but right to modify the sentence which had formerly been passed against him, of dismissal from the service of Government, so far as to permit* his being employed on any vacancy occurring in any subordinate situation under the British Government, out of the province of Kattywar.

17. On the 9th June 1839, and the 20th November 1840, Chotum Lall submitted two further petitions to Government, in which he preferred the following requests, on the ground, as he stated, of his having been acquitted of all the charges which had been preferred against him by Mr. Erskine:—

1st. That he might be appointed to some situation similar to the one which he formerly held in Kattywar; namely, head native agent.

2d. That he might be allowed to draw the full pay of his former situation in Kattywar, from the date of his suspension in July 1836, up to such period as he might be appointed to some other situation; and,

3d. That, should Government refuse a compliance with the above requests, in consequence of the suspicions which attached to his character, a re-investigation might be ordered to be made into his whole case.

18. In reply, Chotum Lall was informed, on the 24th February 1841, that under the orders of the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated the 21st August 1839,† Government was precluded from appointing him to a situation similar to that which he had held in Kattywar; but as the Court had stated that they would not object to his being appointed to some subordinate situation, the Revenue Commissioner had been requested to nominate him to the first vacant mamlutdarship; Chotum Lall was at the same time informed, that Government could not comply with his application to be permitted to draw the full salary of the situation of head native agent to the Political Agent in Kattywar, for the period mentioned by him,‡ but that he would be permitted to draw the sum of *Rs.* 2,485. 5. 2., which remained unappropriated of the salary of his situation between the 27th July 1836, the date on which he was first suspended, and the 11th November 1837, the date of the Government order directing his dismissal.

19. In reply, Chotum Lall, in a petition, dated the 17th May 1841, appealed against the above decision, and solicited that his case might be referred for the re-consideration of the Honourable the Court. This request was complied with by this Government in a despatch dated the 31st August 1841, from which the following is an extract: "The whole of our proceedings in the case of Chotum Lall being now before your Honourable Court, it remains for you either to confirm the orders contained in your letter of the 21st August 1839, or to modify them, should you see any just and sufficient grounds for such a measure."

20. In reply, the Honourable the Court of Directors, in a despatch dated the 22d March 1842, observed as follows: "You have referred for our further consideration the case of Chotum Lall, late native agent to the Kattywar Political Agency, who was dismissed from that office because he was more than suspected to have participated in the extensive system of bribery discovered among the native

* This was previous to the receipt of the Court's orders, to which I have alluded in para. 11 of this minute.

† "The charges against Chotum Lall you considered as not so fully made out; and though he was dismissed from his situation, you consider him as not excluded from holding some other appointment under your government; but we desire, that, if he be employed at all, it be only in a subordinate situation."

‡ From the date of his suspension, in July 1836, to such period as he might be re-employed by Government.

native servants of the agency. He had not, however, been positively convicted of any corrupt act, and as it appeared that in one* of the charges preferred against him, he had not had an opportunity of defending himself, you determined that this one charge should be re-investigated by Mr. Giberne. On the re-hearing, the case against Chotum Lall broke down completely by the discrepancies between the testimony of the witnesses and the evidence they had given on the former investigation. He was, therefore, acquitted of this charg . and he has since petitioned for a similar re-investigation of his other imputed offences ; but this you have not thought yourself at liberty to grant, in consequence of our having intimated to you that we had a strong impression of Chotum Lall's guilt, and directed that he should hereafter be employed by Government in no other than a subordinate capacity.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

*The fourth charge, *vide* para. 12 of this minute.

"It was quite within your authority, however, to order a new investigation without reference to us, in a case which we had expressly stated to be only one of strong presumption, not positive proof, and the grounds we now have for believing that Chotum Lall has been calumniated in at least one† of the cases in which Mr. Erskine considered him guilty, give him a claim to be allowed to prove that a similar error was committed by that gentleman in the other three cases. Should the result be favourable to Chotum Lall, he may be allowed to retire on the usual pension (should he still wish to do so), or he may be appointed to any vacant situation for which he is duly qualified.

†The fourth charge, re-investigated by Mr. Giberne.

"You permitted Chotum Lall to receive the salary of his situation in Kattywar for the period which elapsed between his suspension and his removal from the office of native agent, deducting from the amount the sums which had been paid to certain persons in consideration of the extra duty performed by them during Chotum Lall's suspension, and after his dismissal. As he was not allowed the benefit of the salary which accrued after his dismissal, the sum paid to him ought not to have been diminished by the remuneration granted to others for services performed after that period."

21. I have stated in a former part of this minute, that four charges were preferred against Chotum Lall by Mr. Erskine in 1836, and that that individual was acquitted of the first charge by this Government in 1837 ; and of the fourth charge, on the re-investigation made by Mr. Giberne, under the orders of this Government, in 1839. This Government, in reviewing the proceedings of Mr. Erskine, in regard to the second and third charges, recorded its opinion that strong suspicion of guilt attached to this individual in regard to both of them, but that neither of these two charges had been substantiated. These charges were—

1st. With having received a gold chain, of the weight of 20 gudyanas, from Otum Gandy, ex-Minister of the Porebunder State.

2d. With having received sums of 540 rupees in 1823 and 1824, and 500 rupees in 1827 and 1828, as a present from the Palitana State.

22. Under the views expressed by the Honourable Court in their despatch dated the 22d March 1842, Captain Jacob, then in charge of the Political Agency at Rajkote, was, on the 30th July last, directed to investigate *de novo* the charges Nos. 2 and 3 in the presence of Chotum Lall, and to allow that individual every fair opportunity of clearing himself from the suspicions which attached to him in regard to both of those charges.

23. Captain Jacob commenced a preliminary re-investigation into these charges on the 27th September last. On the 4th February last, Mr. Malet, who had intermediately been appointed Political Agent in Kattywur, submitted to Government the proceedings which had been held before him on the preceding day in the presence of Chotum Lall, in a re-investigation on the second of the charges preferred against him by Mr. Erskine in 1836. In submitting the result of this investigation, Mr. Malet observes, that "there is not the slightest evidence to prove this charge against Chotum Lall," and that he has accordingly acquitted Chotum Lall of this charge. A careful perusal of these proceedings has convinced me of the correctness of Mr. Malet's finding, and his proceedings in regard to this charge should therefore be confirmed.

24. With a subsequent letter, dated the 9th March last, Mr. Malet has submitted

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

submitted his proceedings on his inquiry of the other charge, which he was directed to re-investigate in the presence of Chotum Lall, and the result has been, as in the other charge, the acquittal of that individual. Mr. Malet's finding in this case appears to me to be fully borne out by facts. I find also that the Government of Sir Robert Grant expressed its opinion, in 1837, that this charge against Chotum Lall had not been sufficiently sifted, and decided that, although great suspicion attached to Chotum Lall, his guilt in regard to this charge could not be considered as actually proved. I entirely concur in the inferences drawn by Mr. Malet in this case, and his finding on this charge should be confirmed.

25. The Honourable the Court of Directors, in their despatch dated the 22d March 1842, ordering a re-investigation into the charges against Chotum Lall, observe as follows :—" Should the result be favourable to Chotum Lall, he may be allowed to retire on the usual pension (should he still wish to do so), or he may be appointed to any vacant situation for which he is duly qualified."

26. Under the above circumstances, an intimation should now be made to Chotum Lall, to the effect that he will be allowed to retire on whatever amount of pension he may have been entitled to according to existing regulations on the 11th November 1837, the date of the Government order directing his dismissal; or that otherwise he will, on a vacancy, be appointed to any suitable situation for which he may be qualified.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
G. W. Anderson.
31 May 1843. *J. H. Crawford.*

No. 1601 of 1843.

No. 3046. From *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *Arthur Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar, Rajkote.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters dated the 4th February and 9th March last, Nos. 13 and 28, submitting the proceedings held by you in a re-investigation of the two charges mentioned in the margin,* preferred in 1836 by Mr. Erskine, then Political Agent in the Kattywar, against Chotum Lall Bappoobhaee, late native agent to the Rajkote agency.

* *See* below.

2. In reply, I am directed to inform you that, on a careful consideration of the proceedings submitted with your letters above quoted, the Honourable the Governor in Council fully coincides in the opinion offered by you, that neither of these charges has been substantiated against Chotum Lall, and your acquittal of that individual on both of these charges has therefore been confirmed by Government.

3. A copy of my letter of this date to Chotum Lall, informing him to the above effect, is enclosed for your information.

I have, &c.
(signed) *L. R. Reid,*
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 10 July 1843.

No. 1602 of 1843.

No. 3047. From *L. R. Reid*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *Chotum Lall Bappoobhaee*, late Native Agent to the Rajkote Agency.

1. WITH reference to my letter to your address, dated the 30th July 1842, informing you that, with the permission of the Honourable the Court of Directors,

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* 1st. With having received a gold chain, of the weight of 20 gundyanas, from Ootum Ghandy, ex-Minister of the Porebunder State, and also a sum of 1,500 korees, after the release of that individual from confinement at Porebunder.

2d. With having received sums of 540 rupees in 1823–24, and 500 rupees in 1827–28, as a present from the Palitana State.

Directors, this Government had directed the Political Agent in Kattywar to re-investigate the two charges mentioned in the margin,* preferred against you in 1836 by Mr. Erskine, then Political Agent in Katteewar, I am now desired to inform you that the result of this re-investigation having proved favourable to you, the Honourable the Governor in Council has no objection to allow you to retire, should you desire to do so, on the amount of pension to which you may have been entitled, according to existing regulations, for your services up to the 11th of November 1837, the date of the Government order directing your dismissal.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

* *See* below.

2. Should you prefer it, the Governor in Council will confer on you, on a vacancy, any suitable situation for the duties of which you may be qualified.

By order, &c.

(signed) *L. R. Reid,*
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 10 July 1843.

(True extract.)

(signed) L. R. Reid, Chief Secretary.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 2 November 1843.

To the Right Honourable Sir *G. Arthur*, Bart., K.C.H., Governor and President in Council, Bombay. No. 4732.

The humble PETITION of *Chotum Lall Bhapabhoy*, late Native Agent to the Kattywar Agency, Inhabitant of Ahmedabad.

Most humbly represents,

THAT in the first order from your Honourable Board, dated 30th July 1842, your petitioner was informed that, under the instructions of the Honourable the Court of Directors, the Government has resolved that the second and third charges which had been preferred against him by Mr. Erskine, the late Political Agent in Kattywar, should be re-investigated in your petitioner's presence; consequently your petitioner was ordered to be present on the occasion, in order to remove the strong suspicion which Government entertained against him. This order was duly obeyed by your petitioner, and he immediately proceeded to Rajcote, and remained there for a period of seven months, where the case was duly re-investigated, and the proceedings forwarded to Government, from which it will be proved to your Honourable Board that the charges brought against your petitioner were false and unfounded.

In the recent order of Government, dated 10th July 1843, it is stated, that as the result of the re-investigation of your petitioner's case having proved favourable to him, that the Honourable the Governor in Council has no objection to his retiring, should he be desirous of doing so, on the amount of pension to which he may be entitled according to existing regulations for his services up to the 11th of November 1837, the date of Government directing his dismissal; or if he wishes to have a situation, your Honourable Board will confer one on him when a vacancy suitable to his rank and qualifications should occur.

Having thus been apprised, your petitioner has every reason to believe that as he has served faithfully, Government will not reject your petitioner's claim, to which he is fairly entitled; but whilst he begs to say that in the year 1836, when the pretended charges were likely to be brought against your petitioner, prior to his suspension from his situation, he had forwarded a petition of his grievance to your Honourable Board, to which your petitioner received a reply in Guzrattee, duly communicated to him by Mr. Wathen, the then

* 1st. With having received a gold chain, of the weight of 20 gundyanas, from Chotum Ghandy, ex-Minister of the Porebunder State, and also a sum of 1,500 korees, after the release of that individual from confinement at Porebunder.

2d. With having received sums of 540 rupees in 1823-24, and 500 rupees in 1827-28, as a present from the Palitana State.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

then Persian Secretary, under date the 4th November 1836, stating, that as strong doubts rested in the mind of Government against your petitioner, and which if removed by him, your Honourable Board would feel glad.

However, in order to remove the doubt entertained by your Honourable Board against your petitioner, he proceeded twice to Bombay and three times to Rajcote, and remained there for several years, in all seven years; during all this time he has spent his own money in rambling about from place to place, while he removed all suspicion which your Honourable Board had entertained against him; and he therefore craves that his services may be considered going on up to the present date.

Your Honourable Board is well aware of the nature of your petitioner's faithful servitude; but by the false charge brought against him he has lost his situation, and especially, what is more dear to him, his character; and he hopes that by his being restored to his former situation, his character will in some measure be retrieved, and afterwards should he wish to retire, he will give in a petition for his pension.

Under these circumstances, your petitioner prays, that until he be re-employed either in his former situation, or in any other place of higher dignity in this part of Guzerat, compensation may be granted to him; and further, that the pension which will be granted him will be fixed so as will be sufficient to maintain himself and his large family, by calculating his services up to this date; and also a situation may be bestowed on his son, either at Ahmedabad, Baroda, or in Kattywar. This is your petitioner's humble prayer. By doing justice to your Honourable Board's faithful servant, it will act as a stimulus to others to serve in the same faithful manner.

In compliance with this his prayer, he will for ever pray for the welfare of your Honourable Board.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

(signed) *Chotumlall Bappabhoy*,
Late Native Agent to the
Ahmedabad, 9 August 1843. Kattywar Agency.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Anderson* and the Honourable Mr. *Crawford*.

1. FOR full particulars of this case, I beg to refer to my Minute, dated the 31st May last.

2. In the Government letter dated the 10th July last, to which Chotum Lall alludes in the accompanying petition, he was informed that the result of the re-investigation lately instituted under the orders of Government by Mr. Malet, the Political Agent in Kattywar, into the remainder of the charges preferred against that individual by Mr. Erskine, when Political Agent in that province, having terminated favourably to him, Government had no objection to allow him to retire, should he desire to do so, on the amount of pension to which he may have been entitled according to existing regulations, for his services up to the 11th of November 1837, the date of the Government order directing his dismissal; or that should he prefer it, Government would confer upon him, on a vacancy, any suitable situation for the duties of which he may be qualified.

3. In the accompanying petition Chotum Lall prefers the following requests:

1st. That he may be considered as having been in the employment of Government from the date of his dismissal in November 1837, up to the present period.

2d. That he may be restored to the situation of head native agent to the Kattywar Political Agency, from which situation he was dismissed by order of Government in November 1837, on account of the strong suspicions which attached to him of his being guilty of the charges which had been brought against him by Mr. Erskine.

3d. That until reinstated in the above situation, or employed in any other situation of higher trust, in "that part of Guzerat," compensation may be granted to him.

4th. That

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

4th. That the pension assigned to him, should he wish to retire from the service of Government, after being reinstated in his former situation, or appointed to one of higher trust, may be calculated on the principle that his services have been uninterruptedly continued up to the present time, and not be considered to have ceased in November 1837, when he was dismissed from the service of Government.

5th. That a situation may be conferred upon his son, either at Ahmedabad, Baroda, or in Kattywar.

4. The following is an extract, paragraphs 6 to 8, from a despatch from the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated the 22d March 1842, regarding this individual:—

"You have referred for our further consideration the case of Chotum Lall, late native agent to the Kattywar Political Agency, who was dismissed from that office because he was more than suspected to have participated in the extensive system of bribery discovered among the native servants of the Agency. He had not, however, been positively convicted of any corrupt act, and as it appeared that in one of the charges preferred against him, he had not had an opportunity of defending himself, you determined that this one case should be re-investigated by Mr. Giberne. On the re-hearing, the case against Chotum Lall broke down completely by the discrepancies between the testimony of the witnesses, and the evidence they had given in the former investigation. He was therefore acquitted of the charge; and has since petitioned for a similar re-investigation of his other imputed offences; but this you have not thought yourselves at liberty to grant, in consequence of our having intimated to you that we had a strong impression of Chotum Lall's guilt, and directed that he should hereafter be employed by Government in no other than a subordinate capacity.

"It was quite within your authority, however, to order a new investigation, without reference to us, in a case which we had expressly stated to be only one of strong presumption, not positive proof; and the grounds we now have for believing that Chotum Lall has been calumniated in at least one of the cases in which Mr. Erskine considered him guilty, give him a claim to be allowed to prove that a similar error was committed by that gentleman in the other three cases. Should the result be favourable to Chotum Lall, he may be allowed to retire on the usual pension (should he still wish to do so), or he may be appointed to any vacant situation for which he is duly qualified.

"You permitted Chotum Lall to receive the salary of his situation in Kattywar for the period whiche lapsed between his suspension and his removal from the office of native agent, deducting from the amount the sums which had been paid to certain persons in consideration of the extra duty performed by them during Chotum Lall's suspension, and after his dismissal. As he was not allowed the benefit of the salary which accrued after his dismissal, the sum paid to him ought not to have been diminished by the remuneration granted to others for services performed after that period."

5. Under the instructions of the Honourable Court, contained in the above extract, we should not, I conceive, be justified, apart from other objections, in complying with the request preferred by Chotum Lall to be reinstated in his former situation of native agent to the Political Agency in Kattywar, even if that situation were still vacant, which is not the case; an individual named Bhugwan Lall having, at the recommendation of the Political Agent in Kattywar, been confirmed in that situation in May 1840. This request is, therefore, inadmissible, and should be negatived.

6. The request preferred by Chotum Lall to be permitted to draw in arrears the salary of native agent (300 rupees per mensem) from the date of his dismissal in November 1837 up to the present period, is also inadmissible, on the general ground that no services were rendered by him to Government during that period, and that the compliance with such an application would be unusual, and creating an inconvenient precedent.

7. This point having been determined on, Chotum Lall's services, of course, can only count up to the date of his dismissal in November 1837; and if he now wishes to be pensioned, instead of being provided with another situation on a suitable vacancy, he can only be pensioned, as he has already been informed,

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

upon the amount to which he may have been entitled on the above date, according to then existing regulations.

8. In regard to this individual's request, that his son may be appointed to some situation at Baroda, Ahmedabad, or in Kattywar, he should be informed that his application should have been preferred to the local authorities, and not to Government.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
G. W. Anderson.
13 September 1843. *J. H. Crawford.*

No. 2564 of 1843.—Political Department.

No. 4734. From the Secretary to the Government of Bombay to *Chotum Lall Bappabhaee*, late Native Agent to the Political Agency in Kattywar.

1. In reply to your petition, dated the 9th August last, I am directed to inform you, that the Honourable the Governor in Council is precluded from complying with your request to be reinstated in your former situation of native agent to the Political Agency in Kattywar.

2. The Governor in Council is also unable to accede to your request to be permitted to draw in arrears the salary of native agent from the date of your dismissal in November 1837, up to the present period.

3. I am further desired to signify to you, that your services can only be reckoned up to the 11th November 1837, the date of the Government order directing your dismissal; and that if you now wish to be pensioned, instead of being provided with another situation on a suitable vacancy occurring, you will be pensioned, as you have already been informed, upon the amount to which you may have been entitled on the above date, according to the then existing regulations.

4. Your request, that a situation may be conferred upon your son, either at Ahmedabad, Baroda, or in Kattywar, should be preferred to the local authorities, and not to Government.

By order, &c.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Bombay Castle, 20 October 1843. Secretary to Government.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 14 February 1844.

No. 863. Petition from *Chotumlal Bappobhaee*, late Native Agent of the Rajcote Agency, to the Honourable Sir *George Arthur*, Bart., President and Governor in Council.

Most respectfully showeth,

That under date the 10th July last, your petitioner was informed that the result of the re-investigation of certain charges preferred against him by Mr. Erskine in 1836, having proved favourable to him, Government had no objection to allow him to retire, should he desire to do so, on the amount of pension to which he might have been entitled, according to existing regulations for his services, up to the 11th November 1837, the date of the Government order directing his dismissal; or that, should he prefer it, Government would confer on him, on a vacancy, any suitable situation, for the duties of which he might be qualified.

That with reference to the above reply, your humble petitioner submitted to Government a petition, dated the 9th August last, to the effect that he might be reinstated in his situation of which he had been unjustly deprived; that after his restoration, he would, should he desire, apply to Government for a pension, that he might be permitted to draw his salary, together with the arrears, until he was either re-employed in his former situation, or was graciously appointed to an office of a higher grade; that should Government be inclined to pension him, the time elapsed since the 11th November 1837 might be reckoned into the

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

the period of his services, and a pension which would enable him to maintain himself, might be granted to him, and that lastly a situation might be conferred on his son.

That in reply to this petition, it was intimated to your petitioner, under date the 20th October last, that Government was precluded from complying with his request to be reinstated in his former situation of native agent to the Political Agency in Katteewar; that Government was also unable to accede to his request to be permitted to draw in arrears the salary of native agent, from the date of his dismissal in November 1837 up to the present period; that his services can only be reckoned up to the 11th November 1837, the date of the Government order directing his dismissal; that if he wished to be pensioned, instead of being provided with another situation on a suitable vacancy occurring, he would be pensioned as he had already been informed, upon the amount to which he might have been entitled on the 11th November 1837, according to existing regulation; and that his request that a situation might be conferred on his son, either at Ahmedabad, Baroda, or in Katteewar, should be preferred to the local authorities, and not to Government.

4. That with reference to the first point of the above order, your humble petitioner begs respectfully to submit the following observations: that although both previously and subsequently to his suspension and dismissal, your humble petitioner several times went to Rajcote and Bombay, and repeatedly represented his innocence, and prayed for a fair investigation of the unfounded charges maliciously preferred against him, Government was not pleased to listen to his prayer, until the Honourable the Court of Directors was induced, on a conviction of his unmerited sufferings, to grant him redress; that had the matter, as incessantly requested by your petitioner, been fairly investigated at its very commencement, he should have at that time, as he has now done, cleared himself of the accusation unjustly brought against him, and Government also, in conformity to the regulations and the principle of equity, would have immediately reinstated him in his former situation, as has been done in several cases which need not be enumerated in this place; that labouring under serious but groundless charges, your petitioner, from a due regard for his own character and the duty he owed to Government, could not help using his utmost endeavours to establish his integrity and uprightness. That the long period which has thus elapsed before your petitioner could obtain a fair and impartial investigation of his case, can in no way be attributed to any failure on his part; that your petitioner therefore considers himself fully justified in regarding this protracted period, which he spent exclusively in the above endeavours, as devoted *toto facto* to the service of Government; that the sufferings to which your petitioner has thus been undeservedly subjected, can be better imagined than described. That under these circumstances your humble petitioner confidently trusts, that your Excellency in Council will admit that he has every claim on Government for his reinstatement. That your petitioner is the more anxious and particular for his restoration, because the manner in which he has been dealt with since 1836, has tended considerably to his disparagement, and no other measure than re-employment in his former situation is in his opinion better calculated to the restitution of his character among the people at large. Should, in the face of these facts, Government not be pleased to restore your wronged petitioner to his former situation, it rests with your Excellency in Council to confer on him an office of a higher grade.

That with regard to the second point, your humble petitioner begs to submit, that what has been stated in the preceding paragraph, fully bears out his claim to draw in arrears the salary of native agent, from the date of his dismissal up to the time he may be employed. That had your petitioner at any period since his dismissal employed himself in any other situation or profession, Government would have been justified in withholding from him the arrears of his salary, to which he is under the present circumstances justly entitled.

That after what has been stated above, should Government insist upon pensioning him, your humble petitioner begs that the period elapsed since the date of his dismissal may, for grounds stated in paragraph 4, be reckoned in the period of his services, and that a pension which will enable him to maintain his large family may be granted to him.

That, in conclusion, your humble petitioner most respectfully requests that

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

your Excellency in Council will be most graciously pleased to take into consideration the above representation of the barefaced injustice with which he has been dealt with since the commencement of his case, and to grant his prayers, thereby showing to the people the extent of protection which may be expected at the hands of Government by its faithful and dutiful servants, and encouraging its own servants to persevere with firmness in the path of fidelity, zeal, and uprightness. That after all this, should your Excellency in Council, unfortunately for your petitioner, not be inclined to grant him redress, to which justice and equity entitle him, he most humbly solicits that your Honour in Council will at least confer on him the favour to forward as early as possible this his representation to the Honourable the Court of Directors, with the former and recent proceedings, and with such recommendation as your Excellency in Council may think proper, after taking into consideration the hardships which he has experienced, and your petitioner is fully confident that the Honourable Court will be moved with compassion towards him to grant his prayers.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray,

Bombay, 14 December 1843. (signed) *Chotumlal Bappabhaee.*

No. 864. MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

I SHOULD be glad to be favoured with Mr. Anderson's opinion whether any of the requests of the petitioner can be conceded.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
T. M'Mahon.

4 January 1844.

No. 865. MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Anderson.*

I DO not think we can accede to any of the requests preferred by the petitioner. The several points have, in fact, been already negatived by Government in its resolution of the 13th September last. We might certainly recommend to the Honourable Court that a larger pension should be granted to the petitioner than that to which he is entitled by the Pension Rules.

I think this, because the petitioner has been harshly dealt with under the proceedings had against him by Mr. Erskine, the late Political Agent in Katteewar.

(signed) *G. W. Anderson.*

No. 865 A. MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Board.

I CONCUR, and think we might recommend a pension of 200 rupees per mensem might be granted to him for the reasons stated by Mr. Anderson.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
T. M'Mahon.
G. W. Anderson.
J. H. Crawford.

22 January 1844.

No. 488 of 1844.—Political Department.

No. 866. From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *Chotum Lall Bappabhaee*, late Native Agent to the Rajcote Agency.

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your petition dated the 14th December 1842, and in reply to inform you that Government cannot accede to any of the requests therein preferred.

2. The Honourable the Court of Directors will, however, be addressed by the next

next Overland Mail, with a recommendation in favour of granting you a pension of the sum of 200 rupees per mensem. Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

3. A reference has, however, this day been made to the Civil Auditor for the purpose of ascertaining the amount of pension which you are entitled to for your services up to the 11th November 1837, the date of the Government Order directing your dismissal, according to the then existing Pension Regulations.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 13 February 1844.

No. 489 of 1844.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to *E. E. Elliot*, Esq., Civil Auditor. No. 867.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to request that you will be pleased to state, for the information of Government, the rate of pension per mensem which Chotum Lall Bappabhaee, late native agent to the Rajcote Agency, is entitled to for his services up to the 11th of November 1837, the date of the Government Order directing his dismissal from that situation, according to the then existing regulations.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 13 February 1844.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, May 1844.

PETITION from *Chotum Lall Bappoobhaee*, late Native Agent to the Rajcote Agency, to the Honourable Sir *G. Arthur*, Bart., Governor and President in Council. No. 2539.

Most respectfully showeth,

THAT in 1811–12 your humble petitioner was first employed in the Kaira Collector's Office. That he continued to serve in that office for six years. That afterwards, when the new collectorate of Ahmedabad was formed, Mr. Dunlop was pleased to take your petitioner to Ahmedabad in 1818–19, and to employ him in the Koltia Sagur Establishment. That your petitioner served there until 1819–20, when Colonel Barnewall obtained his services from Mr. Dunlop and took him to Rajcote, where he has since been serving. That he begs to annex copies of the testimonials which were given to him by his superiors, and a reference to which will inform Government of the manner in which he has been serving Government. That before concluding, your poor petitioner begs to state that he has a numerous family to support, and that he has been reduced to a great distress, and requests that your Excellency in Council will be graciously pleased to bring his case to a final conclusion as early as possible.

And your petioner, &c.
Bombay, 4 March 1844. (signed) *Chotumlal Bapoobhaee.*

ON being appointed Political Agent in Kattywar 1819, I was anxious to select an individual, as my head native agent, on whose fidelity and abilities I conceived I could place confidence; my choice fell upon Chotum Lall Bappoobhaee, then holding a most respectable situation under the Collector of Ahmedabad, Mr. Dunlop; that gentleman parted with his services with the greatest reluctance, and merely to advance this native's interests to a higher situation, and one better paid.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

Chotum Lall's conduct has fulfilled every expectation that I entertained of his fidelity and abilities, and I shall ever feel the warmest interest in his welfare; he is entitled to my warmest commendation of his services. While I have presided over this department in the collectorship of Kaira, he was employed during the time I was assistant there, and both by the Collector and his assistants he was remarked for the correctness with which he executed the duties that he was called upon to perform; indeed for the period of 20 years that I have known him, he has been distinguished for the qualifications stated by Mr. Dunlop when he transferred him, namely, viz., honesty, zeal, and fidelity in the discharge of every duty and trust committed to him.

(signed) *R. Barnewall,*
Pol[l] Agent in Kattywar.

Kattywar Political Agent's Office, Porebondur,
13 October 1826.

Ahmedabad, 30 January 1820.

The bearer, Chotum Lall, has been constantly employed about me since my appointment as Collector in the beginning of 1817; first in the capacity of a Persian writer, and afterwards as superintendent of the collector of land customs at Ahmedabad, during which time he gave me so much satisfaction, both in the discharge of his own duties and the examination of old records (for which his unwearied industry and proficiency in Persian peculiarly qualified him), that nothing could have tempted me to part with him except the impossibility of providing for him so well as has been done under the Political Agent in Kattywar.

He appears to me to merit a character for faithful integrity very rare indeed to be met with.

(signed) *J. A. Dunlop,*
Collector of Ahmedabad.

Porebunder, 9 May 1831.

In furnishing Chotum Lall Bappoojee with a testimony of his conduct during the time I have had charge of the Rajcote office, it affords me much pleasure to state that he has supported the excellent character given to him by Major Barnewall, and that I have a high opinion of his steadiness and ability.

(signed) *D. A. Blane,* A. A.

(True copies.)
(signed) Chotum Lall Bapoojee.

No. 802 of 1844.—Political Department.

The Civil Auditor is requested to expedite his reply to the reference made to him on this subject on the 13th ultimo.

By order, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 9 March 1844.

No. 1516 of 1843-44.—Political Department.

With reference to the Government letter No. 489, of the 13th February last, the Civil Auditor begs to state that the report on this application has unavoidably been delayed pending replies which were necessarily made to ascertain the period of Chotum Lall Bappoojee's servitude under Government.

It is ascertained that the individual in question had served Government on the 11th of December 1837 upwards of 24 years, as per margin; had he therefore at that time furnished a medical certificate of his incapacity for further service, and otherwise fulfilled the conditions required by the regulations, by producing testimonials of good conduct for the time he was in the employ of Goverment, he would have been entitled, under clause 1, section 5, of the Pension Rules of the 8th September 1835, to a pension of 100 sicca rupees, or Company's rupees 93. 1. 10 per mensem, being one-third of his salary, calculated on the average of the last five years of his servitude.

	Y.	M.	D.
In the Kaira Collectorate	5	0	0
In the Ahmedabad ditto -	2	2	0
In Kattywar - - -	17	9	14
	24	11	14

(signed) *E. Elliot,*
Civil Auditor.

Bombay Castle, Civil Auditor's Office,
10 April 1844.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Board.

UNDER all the circumstances of this case, and pending the recommendation proposed in my Minute, dated the 22d January last, to be made to the Honourable the Court of Directors, in favour of granting to Chotum Lall, for the special reasons mentioned in the Honourable Mr. Anderson's Minute, a pension of 200 rupees per mensem, he should be allowed to draw the amount (Company's 93. 1. 10., or 100 sicca rupees,) to which the Civil Auditor reports he is entitled by the provisions of the Pension Rules. Payment of this pension should, I am of opinion, commence from the 9th March 1843, being the date of Mr. Malet's final report of his re-investigation into this case, the result of which was the acquittal of Chotum Lall of all the charges which had been preferred against him by the late Mr. Erskine.

2. Orders to the above effect should be issued, and the reference to the Honourable the Court of Directors should be made by the next steamer.

3. The question regarding the date from which the pension should commence may be put to the Honourable Court, *i. e.*, whether it should commence from the date on which the petitioner ceased to draw salary.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
J. H. Crawford.
L. R. Reid.

17 April 1844.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, to *Chotum Lall Bappoobhaee*, late Native Agent to the Rajcote Agency.

1. IN reply to your petition, dated the 4th ultimo, I am directed to inform you that the Honourable the Governor in Council is pleased to grant you a pension of Company's rupees ninety-three, one anna, and ten pies (*Rs.* 93. 1. 10) per mensem, being the equivalent of 100 sicca rupees, the amount of pension to which you are entitled under the Pension Rules published on the 8th September 1835, for the period during which you were in the employment of Government, ending with the 11th November 1837.

2. Pending the decision of the Honourable the Court of Directors, to which authority a reference has been made on the subject, the Governor in Council is pleased to permit you to draw this pension in arrears from the 9th March 1843, being the date on which Mr. Malet, the Political Agent in Kattywar, submitted his final report to Government of his investigation into your case.

3. As intimated to you in my letter dated the 13th February last, a recommendation has been made to the Honourable the Court of Directors in favour of conferring upon you, as a special case, a pension of 200 sicca rupees per mensem, in lieu of the pension of 100 sicca rupees now granted to you by Government.

By order, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 27 April 1844.

No. 1242 of 1844.

COPY of the above letter to be sent for the information of the Political Agent in Kattywar, with reference to the documents sent to him with the Government letter dated the 16th July last, No. 1601.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Chief Secretary.

Removal of Chotum Lall, Native Agent in Kattywar.

No. 1343 and 1344 of 1844.

COPY to be also sent to the Civil Auditor for information and guidance, with reference to his report dated the 10th instant, No. 1516, and to the Accountant-general.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Chief Secretary.

(True extract.)

(signed) J. P. Willoughby, Chief Secretary.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 26 June 1844.

No. 1987 of 1844.

From *E. H. Townsend*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

WITH reference to Mr. Chief Secretary Reid's letter No. 1601, dated the 10th July 1843, I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you an extract, para. 2 to 4, from a despatch from the Honourable the Court of Directors, No. 6, dated the 27th March last, and to request that you will be pleased to report whether Munguljee Roopsee, the person alluded to by that authority in the third para., is still employed in any, and if so, in what capacity under Government.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. H. Townsend*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 22 June 1844.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 31 July 1844.

No. 4420. From *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar, to *E. H. Townsend*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1987, June 22d, and to inform you that Munguljee Roopsee was dismissed from Government employ in the month of February 1838, and has not since been employed in any capacity whatever.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency,
Rajcote, 4 July 1844.

No. 4421. MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Crawford* and the Honourable Mr. *Reid*.

COPY to be sent to the Honourable the Court of Directors, with reference to the third para. of their despatch, dated the 27th March last, No. 6.

(signed) *G. Arthur*.
J. H. Crawford.
L. R. Reid.

22 July 1844.

(True extract.)

(signed) J. P. Willoughby, Chief Secretary.

Anonymous Charges of Bribery and Corruption against certain Members of the Kattywar Political Agency Establishment.

Anonymous Charges of Bribery against Members of the Kattywar Political Agency.

EXTRACT Political Letter from Bombay, dated 30 September (No. 78) 1844.

Katteewar Agency.

Charge of bribery, corruption, and undue influence against certain Members of the Political Agent's establishment.

Pol. Cons. 1843:
30 December, No. 5934 to 5936.

Pol. Cons. 1844:
1 March, No. 1303 to 1305.
29 May, No. 3054 to 3056.

Para. 46. WE have the honour to submit, in Collection No. 22, accompanying this despatch, our proceedings arising out of a representation which was addressed to Government on the 14th September last, in the name of "Sha Sukeedass Wunjee" and "Damuth Wullul Kassinoth," preferring charges of bribery and corruption against several members of the establishment of the Political Agent in Katteewar. On receipt of this representation, we directed Mr. Malet, the Political Agent, immediately to institute a careful inquiry into each of the allegations therein contained, and we at the same time authorised Mr. Malet, should he see fit, to suspend any persons on his establishment against whom he might consider fair grounds of suspicion existed.

47. In reply, Mr. Malet reported that he had no reason to believe that the least foundation existed for any of the charges contained in the above representation. Mr. Malet at the same time stated, that in order that he might institute the fullest inquiry, he had endeavoured, but without success, to trace out the parties in whose names this representation had been addressed, but that the result of his inquiries had satisfied him that the names attached thereto were fictitious. In reply, we directed Mr. Malet to continue to exercise the greatest possible vigilance over the conduct of each member of his establishment, and to persevere in his endeavours to trace out the writers of the above representation.

48. In the 12th para. of his report, Mr. Malet alluded to the circumstance that one of the native members of his establishment was a partner in a banking firm established in Katteewar, but Mr. Malet, at the same time, observed that he did not consider that there was any objection to this person, although in the service of Government, being engaged in a transaction of this nature. In reply, we pointed out to Mr. Malet, that he had altogether lost sight of the circular order to the effect quoted in the margin,* which, under instructions from your Honourable Court, was issued by the Government of Mr. Duncan on the 3d May 1805, prohibiting the employment of any European or native in any department under Government, who may be directly or indirectly engaged in trade. We at the same time directed Mr. Malet to require the above individual either immediately to relinquish his connexion with the banking firm, and any other mercantile transactions in which he might be engaged, or to resign his situation on the Political Agent's establishment. In a letter dated the 8th April last, Mr. Malet solicited that we would reconsider our decision in this case, but, in reply, we informed that officer that we saw no grounds for acceding to his recommendation in favour of this person, and we therefore directed him at once to carry the above orders into effect.

* *See* below.

EXTRACT Political Letter to Bombay, dated 23 April (No. 13) 1845.

Kattywar.

Para. 2. ALTHOUGH the petition which was presented to you in a fictitious name, charging the principal native officers of the Kattywar establishment with numerous acts of corruption, could not be made the foundation of any inquiry; we

* The Honourable the Governor in Council is pleased to prohibit you from employing European or native clerks in your department, who may be engaged in trade directly or indirectly on their own account, or as agents for others, inattention to which rule and positive regulation (which is now prescribed in the spirit of the last order received from the Honourable the Court of Directors) will subject the Company's servant who may continue to allow of such trading clerks, or other description of officers in the departments under them, to the highest displeasure of Government.

Anonymous Charges of Bribery against Members of the Kattywar Political Agency.

we approve the exhortation which you addressed to Mr. Malet, to exercise the utmost vigilance over his subordinates. It was very proper, on learning that Golabraee, the native second in rank on the establishment, had an interest in a banking firm at Rajcote, to require that he should relinquish either that connexion, or his official appointment.

No. 5934.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 2 December 1843.

Persian Department.

SUBSTANCE of a Petition from *Shah Shukheedass Nemjee*, inhabitant of Killa Oomrely, and *Mehta Danut Wullubh Kashinath*, inhabitant of Joonagur, in behalf of the Talookdars in Kattiawar, to the Honourable the Governor in Council, dated 14th September, and received 9th November 1843.

FORMERLY the Peishwa and Guikwar used to levy tribute from Katiawar, but they adopted no measures to promote the permanent prosperity of the country. As those Governments did not station any military force in the country, the jageerdars used to create disturbances to the injury of the ryots; however, when the British authority was introduced into the country the disturbances were brought to an end. In 1808/9 Major Walker made a settlement to the effect that the jageerdars should create no disturbance among themselves; that no talookdar should deprive another of his village or geeras; that the members of the junior branch of a family should not receive more villages or geeras than were allowed by the usage of the talooka; that no talookdar should afford shelter to a robber or "barwuteea"* of another talooka; that all the talookdars should duly pay the Government tribute, and manage their respective talookas with propriety; and in order to enforce this settlement it was resolved to station a Political Agent at Rajcote. This arrangement promoted the prosperity of the country and the happiness of the people. This state of things continued until the time of Mr. Blane. Since that time Bhugwanlal Muddonjee and Goolabroy conduct the public business by misrepresenting matters to their superiors, whose confidence they enjoy. The former, a Nuggur Bramin, is the head dufturdar to the Political Agent, and the latter also a Nuggur Bramin, of the same city, is the dufturdar to the Assistant Political Agent. Both of them are Wuttundars of Joonaghur. Being relations they have combined together and commit fraudulent and deceitful acts. By their ill advice they incite the enemies of the people to raise disputes, and thereby exact lacs of rupees as bribes. This circumstance is as clear as the sun. These karbarees and their dewan Umrutal Umurchund have now concerted a plan to create disputes in every talooka, and to cause either the whole talooka or some of the villages under it to be attached. They intrust the duties of attachment to their relations, and collect the revenues through their own people; they bring to account a less amount of revenue than is collected from the attached villages, and they embezzle the difference. They make the talookdars farm out their territories to Naggur Bramins who belong to their (the dufturdar's) caste, and they thus gain lacs of rupees; they also by virtue of their offices keep the talookdars in awe, and have become as it were masters of the country; they commit acts of tyranny and fraud, and openly extort lacs of rupees. In order to keep Government in utter ignorance of their proceedings they have adopted the following practice: they have employed the Naggur Bramins of the 12 villages, including Joonaghur, which are known in this country as belonging to Mulharee Naggur Bramins, in the Political Agent's establishment, and have appointed them to every other office. They have induced, by threats, all the talookdars to dismiss their old karbharees, and to employ Naggur Bramins in their stead, as also in the capacity of vakeel. Whenever any place is to be attached they manage to intrust their caste fellows with the duty. Whenever mohsuls or palas are required to be sent to any talookdar, they employ their own relations and caste fellows. All these Naggur Bramins amount to 1,000 or 1,200 persons, and such is the union existing among them, that every Naggur Bramin who goes on service to the talooka tells the talookdar that if he will form friendship with Bhugwanlall and Goolabry, through their defendant

* Outlaw.

Anonymous Charges of Bribery against Members of the Kattywar Political Agency.

defendant (Umrootlal), and settle an annual allowance upon them, his dignity will be upheld and his talooka secured to him, otherwise that he shall be ruined. In this manner the two dufturdars and their caste fellows extort thousands of rupees from the talookdars, who are at the same time threatened if they disclose the proceedings, with the loss of their wuttuns. The dufturdars openly say, that in political establishments a person proved guilty of having received bribes is merely dismissed, and suffers no other punishment, and that they do not care for dismissal. During the time of Captain Lang the above mentioned Umrutlal Umurchund was convicted of being concerned in a bribery case, was incapacitated from serving Government, and was prohibited access to the British officers in the country; a notification was also issued to that effect. Notwithstanding this, Bhugwanlal, because he was formerly a menial servant of Umrutlal, has by misrepresentation induced the officers in the country to make a reference to Government, and procured him access to the British officers. The two dufturdars receive bribes through this man to the amount of lacs of rupees; they entrust him with the attachment of a talooka or villages, and what is embezzled from the revenue they deposit in the firm, which they have caused to be opened at Rajcote in the name of Nursingh Prusad Madhowrow, a relation of Umrutlal. Many frauds are practised by this firm. I now beg to submit the following particulars for the consideration of Government.

1st. There were some points in dispute regarding the right of succession of the sons of the Nawab of Joonaghur. In this case the dufturdars openly received carts full of "korees"* from the Joonaghur Government, through the instrumentality of Umrutlal and his brother Anundjee; they also received a considerable sum in the name of Captain Jacob, to the injury of his character in this country, where this proceeding is well known.

* Two-thirds of a Rupee.

2d. The dufturdars having caused unjust charges to be raised against the Jam of talooka Noanuggur, through certain mean persons, exacted from him large sums of money, and still continue doing so. Evidence in support of this is to be found in the account-books of the Jam. Should these books be suddenly seized they will fully bear out our statement.

3d. Having brought unjust charges against the talookdars of Porebunder, Limree, Wudhwan, Morbee, Wakanere, Rajcote, Lathee, Juthpur, &c. the dufturdars have extorted, and do still extort, large sums of money from them. Should the account-books of these chiefs be suddenly seized, a substantial evidence will be obtained.

4th. The dufturdars have in like manner received bribes from the talookdars of Palitana and Bhownuggur, through the medium of Umrutlal and Anundjee. The amounts have been entered in the names of the vakeels in the account-books, which, if seized, will establish the truth of this statement.

5th. The Raja of talooka Vullay had two sons, one by his lawful wife, and the other by his kept mistress. On the death of the former the latter, Koonwur Humeerjee, was the heir to the talooka, but the dufturdar incited one Pattabhaee, a member of the junior branch of the family, to claim the gaddee, and having received from him a considerable sum of money, caused the talooka to be made over to him. The old Raja of Bhownuggur, who is the "teelat" of the Vullay talooka, wrote to the Political Agent that the gaddee should be given to Humeerjee, son of the late chief, but to no purpose. The dufturdars now receive from Puttabhaee an annual allowance. This may be proved from his account-books.

Besides this, the dufturdars by virtue of their offices cause the management of talookas to be assigned to Umrutlal and Anundjee, and thereby obtain lacs of rupees. The following are the particulars.

1st. They have caused the Kotera talooka to be made over to Umrutlal and his brother Anundjee, on pretence of a farm.

2d. They have caused the management and farm of the talookas of Rajcote and Sirdhar to be given to Umrutlal and Anundjee, and have made them as it were Rajas of the talookas.

3d. They have caused the management and farm of talooka Oopleta to be entrusted to Umrutlal and Anundjee.

Anonymous Charges of Bribery against Members of the Kattywar Political Agency.

4th. Bugwunlal has entrusted his father-in-law, Kursunjee of Joonagur, with the attachment of about six or seven villages in talooka Baburyawar; this person by his ill advice incites the people to create disturbances, and then through the assistance of Bugwunlal causes their villages to be sequestrated by Government. When the villages are entrusted to him, he brings only a part of the revenues to account and embezzles the remainder, giving a portion of it to the dufturdars; he uses ill language to the villagers and forcibly exacts receipts from them. The arbitrary proceedings of Kursunjee may be ascertained by inquiring of the villagers.

5th. The lease of Mahal Gudhuva, belonging to the Raja of Bhownuggur, has been made in the name of Bappoo Purmanundass, grandson of Umrutlal's aunt, and Anundjee stands security for him; this year, however, Umrutlal and Anundjee have taken possession of the mahal; they have appropriated to themselves the surplus income, but have not paid the whole amount of the farm; the talookdar used to pay from this mahal a "jortulbee" to Government, which, however, has not now been fully paid. Should Government examine the accounts kept by the Raja of the income of this mahal, it will be satisfied of the fraudulent proceedings of Umrutlal, Anundjee and Bappoo.

6th. Certain shawuks of Ahmedabad hold the talooka of Palitana and the Setroonja Hill in farm; but with the view of making over the talooka to the charge of Umrutlal and Anundjee, the dufturdars having created a dispute between the talookdar and the farmers regarding their accounts, which have already been settled, and have incited the talookdar to make a complaint on the subject. The dufturdar intends to go with the Political Agent to Palitana, and to take possession of it by farming it out to Umrutlal and Anundjee.

7th. The dufturdars and Umrutlal and Anundjee have concerted a plan to take possession of certain mahals of talooka Bhownuggur. There is a dispute between the chouth bhageeas of Gudhura mahal and the talookdar on account of the management of the mahal having been entrusted to the above-mentioned Bappoo; there is also a dispute between the talookdar and his jummadar; the members of the junior branch of the talookdar's family wish to obtain more geeras than is allowed by the usage of the talooka. The Nowab of Joonagur has boundary disputes with the talookdar, and the latter has laid claims against the former for having afforded shelter to the robbers and barwutteeas of his talooka, and thereby caused him injury. With regard to the dispute with the jummadar, Government has several times ordered it to be settled amicably; and the claim of the members of the branch of the family to obtain more geeras than what is usual has been declared inadmissible. Government has informed the Nowab of Joonaghur that the loss he suffered in the boundary case has been compensated by the injury occasioned by him to the talookdar. In this manner all the disputes were settled while Mr. Blane was the Political Agent, excepting that regarding the management of the Ghudhura mahal and a few fields situated in it; but the dufturdars having ill advised the chouth bhagees of mahal Gudehura, and having received bribes to a considerable amount from them, caused the mahal to be attached through their own men; afterwards the talookdar deputed Bappoo to Rajcote to make representations on the subject, but Bappo being a relation of Umrutlal and Anundjee, as stated above, the dufturdars managed through him to re-open the above-mentioned cases, which had been settled before; they also, with the view of receiving bribes to the amount of lacs of rupees and of taking possession of the mahals, induced the talookdar by threats to re-employ as kharbaree Bappoo's father, whom he had formerly dismissed. With regard to the dispute between the Nowab of Joonagur and the talookdar of Bhownuggur, the dufturdars having got the former to promise to pay them a large amount, and to grant them villages and geeras, caused Bappoo, vakeel of the latter, to pass without his knowledge a writing favourable to the nuwab. The dufturdars intend to exact considerable sums of money from the members of the junior branch of the talookdar's family by settling upon them a larger amount of geeras than that allowed by the usage of the country, and from the talookdar himself, by removing the attachment from the Gudheea mahal. They have already received about 25,000 or 30,000 rupees through the medium of Bappoo. Should the account-books of the talookdar be suddenly seized the truth of our statement will be apparent; they intend to take the Political Agent to Bhownuggur while proceeding to Palitana, and then to induce

induce the talookdar to farm out the mahals of Muhoowa, Koondulla, &c., to Umrutlal and Anundjee in the name of Bappoo, and to entrust the entire management of Bhownuggur to Bappoo's father.

Anonymous Charges of Bribery against Members of the Kattywar Political Agency.

8th. With the view of taking possession of the territory of the Nowab of Joonaghur, who is a minor, the dufturdar called Jubur Shet, karbharee of that state, to Rajcote, and persuaded him to give in a petition to the effect, that the Nowab being a minor, his territory might be farmed out for 10 years ; they will now fix the amount of the farm according to their fancy, and entrust the territory either to Umrutlal, Anundjee, or some other person ; they will thus embezzle lacs of rupees and become masters of the Joonaghur state.

9th. That the dufturdars have embezzled considerable sums of money is evident from the following : About 10 years ago they held situations on insignificant salaries, and were in a very poor condition. They have held their present high appointments for the last four years, and if the amounts of their respective salaries be computed for this period, and their expenses be deducted from the results, the balance in favour of Bhugwanlal should be about 6,000 or 7,000 rupees, and in that of Goolabroy about 2,000. But contrary to this, they possess estates to the value of 10,000 or 20,000 rupees each. It is said that Bhugwanlal has hidden about 20 lacs of rupees in his house, and that Goolabroy about five lacs. The ornaments and clothes which they possess are beyond description. Besides this their money is employed in commercial speculations through the above-mentioned firm. Should the account-books of this firm, as also of Umrutlal's firm at Joonaghur, be suddenly seized, together with the letters addressed by the talookdars to Umrutlal and Anundjee, all the particulars will be known to Government without any trouble.

Bhugwanlal and his dewan Umrutlal conduct themselves very improperly. Having obliged the vakeels who reside at Rajcote, on the part of the talookdars, to keep sets of dancing girls, they go to the house of the vakeel at night and commit debauchery beyond description. Very wicked acts are committed at the house of Bappoo in particular. The dufturdars hold shares in the farm of the talookas which they have caused and intend to cause to be given to Umrutlal and Anundjee. The sufferings experienced under the late Government are surpassed by the fraudulent and deceitful proceedings of the dufturdars, for when these Naggur Bramins, having deceived the talookdars, have become masters of their talookas, it is difficult for the talookdars to maintain their dignity. The reason the talookdars do not make any representation on the subject either to the officers in the country or to the British Government, is as follows : The talookdars think that if they make a complaint it will be inquired into through the Naggur Bramins themselves, that their karbharees, who are also Naggur Bramins, employed through the influence of the dufturdars, will, instead of adducing the proper evidence, spoil their account-books, that their account-books thus rendered unworthy of credit, will tend to their disparagement, and that they may ultimately be deprived of their territories in consequence of the ill-will created between them and the dufturdars. On these grounds the talookdars will not make a representation to Government. We therefore pray that your Excellency in Council will be pleased to suspend at once the dufturdars and the Nagur Bramins of Joonaghur employed by them, and then to institute an inquiry into the matter, as was done in the case of Sarrabhaee and his party at the Baroda Residency, and in that of Madhowlal of Sadra. If this be done the talookdars will also furnish information, and the fradulent proceedings will be brought to light. It will be better that the inquiry should be intrusted to Captain Ramsay, who was formerly Assistant Political Agent at Rajcote. But if this cannot be done, we pray that this petition, together with its English translations, may be forwarded to Captain Ashton, with instructions to keep his dufturdar, Goolabroy, in ignorance of the matter, to suspend the above-mentioned persons, to conduct the inquiry through Vreejdass Rungeeldass, a mujmoodar of the Guikwar, and Roopshunkur, a Nagur Bramin of Joonagur, who now resides at Rajcote, but is not connected with the abovementioned fraudulent persons. Should these measures be adopted, all the acts of the dufturdars will be brought home to them. Should Government not be inclined to institute an inquiry, as suggested above, the talookdars wish that Government should fix stipends for them according to their rank, and resume all their talookas. The sufferings of the talookdars in consequence of the proceedings of the dufturdars are beyond description. As the British Govern-

Anonymous Charges of Bribery against Members of the Kattywar Political Agency.

ment is a just one, we trust that immediately on the receipt of this petition, your Excellency in Council will be pleased to adopt measures for the relief of the talookdars.

(signed) *W. Escombe,*
Secretary to Government.

No. 5935. MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Board, without date.

THERE is no doubt a tone of exaggeration throughout this letter, but the allegations it contains are of a very serious nature, and if true, vitally affecting the welfare and prosperity of Kattywar.

Copy of this representation should be sent to Mr. Malet for his immediate and careful report on each allegation.

The Political Agent will, if he sees fit, suspend from their situations any persons on his establishment against whom he may consider good grounds of suspicion exists, and he will be careful not to employ, when conducting the inquiry, any of the persons involved in the inquiry, or in their interest.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
T. M'Mahon.
G. W. Anderson.
J. H. Crawford.

No. 3190 of 1843.—Political Department.

No. 5936. From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to *Arthur Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you translation of a petition from Shah Suckheedass Nemjee, an inhabitant of Joonaghur, dated the 14th of September last, preferring charges of bribery, corruption, and undue influence in the several instances therein mentioned against certain members of your establishment.

2. In forwarding this petition, I am desired to request that you will be pleased to institute a careful inquiry into each of the allegations therein contained, and report the result to Government, as early as may be practicable.

3. The Governor in Council authorises you, should you see fit, to suspend from their situations any persons on your establishment against whom you may consider good grounds of suspicion to exist, and you will, of course, be careful not to employ, when conducting this inquiry, any of the persons involved, or those in their interest.

I have, &c.
Bombay Castle, (signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
16 December 1843. Secretary to Government.

No. 1303. Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 1 March 1844.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 3190, dated 16th instant, enclosing a translation of a petition from Shah Sukeedas, Manjee of Ameelee, and Mehta Danut Wullubh Kasinath, inhabitant of Joonaghur, directing me to institute a careful inquiry into the allegations contained in it, authorising me to suspend from employment any person against whom I may have good grounds for suspicion, and directing me not to employ in the investigation any of the persons who may be involved in the cases.

2. As from the nature of the complaints it is not probable that a little delay will in any way affect their ultimate results, I consider it proper to trouble Government with a few remarks on this petition, previous to taking any further steps, trusting that their tenor will exonerate me from blame.

3. I have inquired, through a person of much intelligence, altogether unconnected,

Anonymous Charges of Bribery against Members of the Kattywar Political Agency.

nected, indeed not on good terms with the persons complained against, concerning the petitioners; as their names are stated in the English version of the petition, he can give no intelligence of them; the nearest approaches are the names of the Baroda banker, Munguljee Sakeedas, who has a shop at Amerlee, and Bolakeeran and Nuthooram, sons of Kaseedass, of Joonaghur, but the difference in this name is too great for me to raise premature suspicions by questioning them (they are all distant at this time but Balakeeram) as to any petition they may have given to Government; I consider the petition, therefore, to be anonymous, and though this may not affect its truth, it must so far affect its credibility as to cause more caution in dealing with it; in fact the first necessary step would be, that I should require the presence of the petitioners, who would, I presume, be the fittest persons to aid me in the inquiry. I will take the accusations as the petitioners have detailed them, for the sake of brevity, confining myself to remarks, without recapitulating them.

4. Bhugwanlal Muddunjee and Goolabraee Umbashunkur are relations, wuttundars of Joonaghur; the former is head native in the Political Agent's establishment, the other is the next in rank. The first is chiefly employed in direct communication with the Political Agent, the second with the first assistant; their being relations can be no bar to their employment, though previous to their being placed in those situations it doubtless was well weighed, I see no reason to consider the appointments injudicious; nearly all the Nuggurs of Katteewar are wuttundars of Joonaghur; this class is well known to Government, and though with the intelligence of a very large proportion of its members and its almost universal good education, it possesses a character for intrigue, I cannot say that I consider it worse than others. With natives with so many years' education, intelligence and intrigue have been considered sister virtues; and whenever there is room for suspicion, credibility converts it into certainty that the latter exists.

5. The business of the province is carried on by written petitions on which the orders are endorsed, all the talookdars have vakeels in attendance, and their natural shrewdness is stimulated by their own interest to detect everything that may tell against them; I find them ready to cavil to the uttermost, and have no reason for supposing that any unjust act could occur without immediate and most urgent complaint.

6. The customs of this province, the division of inheritance, the independence of individuals, and the character of the people; sufficiently account for the disputes, without imputing any underhand agency in fomenting them; all things considered, it is wonderful that they are so few, and arranged with such ease.

7. Umrutlal Umerchund was guaranteed photdar of Gondul in 1839, but on the new arrangements in 1840 with Nuthooram Umerjee, this arrangement was cancelled; he now holds Apleta in Poolachoot lease for six years, which terminates in 1846; he also claims money from Gondul on account of his photdaree transactions; these claims are now under investigation, and it seems probable that they are not to the amount he states. He was formerly engaged in transactions which brought him under the displeasure of Government, and though he has been employed since in Gondul, for reasons reported at the time, he is not considered as perfectly clear, so much so indeed, that I refused only a few months since to allow him to become the vishadar for Wusawur, which the talookdar wished to grant him; as to his being the dewan of the dufturdars, I can only say that I can see no wish on their part to obtain anything for him, nor unless his Gondul accounts are clear, can he expect any countenance from me.

8. The revenues of the farmed districts have of late years been greater than formerly. Morvee and Dusseera are convincing proofs of this, and I can answer for it, that attachment is not unnecessarily resorted to, and it is but justice to state that I find every wish in Bhugwanlal to aid me in carrying out my objects without resort to that measure, and Government must be well aware that the practical knowledge of such a man in these matters is no slight assistance. The only voice he has in the appointment of attachment mehtas is to take care that no new name is entered on the list without my orders; the attachments now are so few, that a selection is always made from those mehtas who have before been employed with credit. I see no reason why a man, being related to a Government servant, should be a bar to his employ. Knavery in collusion

collusion with a talookdar is possible, and may perhaps sometimes be practised; without his connivance, it is nearly impossible, as on the removal of an attachment the accounts cannot be passed without a special investigation, unless the talookdar's examination having proved satisfactory, he has granted a rajeenamah to the mehta; one instance occurred since my appointment of an accusation against an attachment mehta, who was Bhugwanlal's brother, he died rather suddenly; his accounts were not made up, and the talookdar accused him of dishonesty; the case was thoroughly investigated by Captain Aston, and most satisfactorily disproved.

9. As to the employ of Nagur Brahmins, it must be remembered, that their class being the most intelligent and best educated in the peninsula, it is always probable that many persons of it will be found where those qualities are requisite; nearly all of those now employed were put in before Bhugwanlal's elevation to his present situation, and the officers who appointed them were not men to take people without good grounds into such service.

10. The talookdars employ as karbarrees whomsoever they think fit, and from the intercourse I have had with them, I do not consider them men likely to be led by any person in the position of the dufturdars.

11. The mohsuls or palas are nearly all of the military classes, some there are of other tribes, but the Nuggurs are very few. I especially employed four with mohsul chits on districts near Rajcote, to arrange the old native dufturs, which were in great confusion, but on the completion of this duty they will have no claim whatever for service beyond what their merits may give them.

12. It is not a secret that Goolabraee at least has a share in the banking firm of Nursing Pursad Mahadooram, but I cannot suppose such a method of investing his money can be made a matter of accusation against him.

13. The assertion of bribes in the case of the Joonaghur succession is easily made; if ever I can find any prospect of proving such an accusation, I could not of course pass it over; in its present shape it is equally vague and intangible with the others.

14. I am not acquainted with any charges which have been brought against the Jam, with whom for a long period we have had no dispute; the case pending between him and Joouderjee's firm affords, however, a fertile field for assertions, many of which I have heard, but my inquiries have failed to elicit anything further than the most vague charges.

15. The selection of the various talookdars in the 3d item includes, with Joonaghur, Nowanuggur, Bhownuggur and Palitana, the principal estates in the peninsula, and Government is aware that it is not usual to seize the account-book of talookdars, nor even to examine them, unless in cases affecting the pecuniary interest of the talooka with reference to its tribute; a month for each investigation, to the exclusion of any other business, and the destruction of the appearance of independenee, so much clung to by the talookdars, would be the least but immediate results of attention to this accusation.

16. The accusation relative to the succession to Killah Wulleh bears its own refutation with it, and requires no notice.

17. Rajcote sirdar, under the ministryof Anundjee, is far better managed than formerly in every respect; the Thacoor chooses, as all others, his own minister.

18. The Kotrata looka was farmed to Amrutlall, in 1842, in supercession of the sequestration, and was sanctioned by Government; this requires no other notice.

19. The Apleta talooka was given in poolachoot lease to Amrutlal, as the best means of releasing the Gondul estate from the pecuniary obligations it lay under to him; the farm expires in 1846, and I see no reason for further remarks on it.

20. Kursunjee has long been employed on attachment duty; the comparatively quiet state of Babreeawar fully warrants my disbelief of the accusation against him; in 1842, Captain Jacob was in that country, and he was not a man to pass over misconduct such as attributed to him.

21. Bhownuggur

21. Bhownuggur pays zortulubee to the Nawab of Joonaghur in one sum, an old calculation of the various items; if the thacoor choose to remit any customary collection on a village given in enam, we have nothing to do with it, unless the public interests are concerned.

22. Certain shrawuks of Ahmedabad (*videlicet*, Heemabhoy, the Nuggur Shet of that city) have long held the farm of Politana at a rent of 42,000 rupees; the lease is now up, and the estimate of the produce for this year is 72,000 rupees; the loss of so valuable a possession may well stimulate some exertions to avert it. The examination of the accounts has been allotted to a punchayet, and I have required security from the thacoor to the amount of 30,000 rupees, the surplus beyond the old farm, in payment of the first instalment of any balance which may be due to the late farmers; should he not satisfy me on this head, villages to that amount will be sequestrated.

23. Bappoobhoy is the son of the minister of Bhownuggur, we have no concern in any farms granted to him, unless the moolgrasseeas complain of oppression; petitions of this description meet with immediate attention.

24. The claim of the junior members of the talookdar's family to more than the customary giras has long been reported to Government.

25. The Gudra dispute has existed nearly in the same state as now for seven years, and had not I been obliged to repair to Joonaghur, would by this time either have been settled or submitted for the orders of the Government.

26. The para. relative to Jubbur Shet being called to Rajcote is not true. A farm for 10 years would not be an undesirable measure for the Nawab, he is now endeavouring to lease his districts for five years; the whole of the Joonaghur arrangement, forming the subject of a report, renders further notice unnecessary.

27. Bhugwanlal and Goolabraee are men of respectable, though comparatively not wealthy families; the amount of their estates of 10,000 or 20,000 rupees each (not a very exact calculation), is but little for them in the natural course of events to have come into; the averment of the secretion of the 25 lacs is undserving of any notice.

28. I am not well acquainted with the private character of the vakeels, nor do I suppose Government wishes to inquire whether they keep dancing girls; I believe both the dufturdars, especially Bhugwanlal, to be free from excesses of the description alluded to.

29. The suspension of the dufturdars, were proof at hand of the assertions in the petition, would be necessary; two instances of such proceedings are adduced, but the proceeding in those cases was on proof. The suspension of Chotumlall, more germane to the matter in hand, is not glanced at, and if examples of the ill effects of such a measure were required, I would beg respectfully that his case should not be lost sight of.

30. With reference to the officers recommended to Government for the investigation, Captain Ramsey was thought to dislike Bhugwanlall, and a fine deservedly imposed by Captain Aston on Goolabraee for overstaying a leave of absence, is quite sufficient to obtain for him credit for similar partiality with persons who appear animated with such a spirit as the petitioners.

31. The wishes of the talookdars will be best known when they petition in their own names. I can see but little inclination on their part to give up their estates, and believe that they must suffer far more extortion than they are likely to bear in silence before they wish for such a course.

32. In conclusion, I may be allowed to state that an inquiry of the extensive nature contemplated in the petition, could only be conducted by the Political Agent if relieved from all other duties. He has now more work than can be done with any satisfaction, and a new and mere temporary establishment which would be necessary on the suspension of the present one, would render his duties far more laborious; a separate officer and establishment then for such investigation would be absolutely necessary.

33. I also beg that it may be understood that having no very exalted opinions of native honesty, I always listen with attention to tales affecting the

Anonymous Charges of Bribery against Members of the Kattywar Political Agency.

character of persons in my employ, but until I can get more than the vague assertions and surmises which I have hitherto heard, I should be sadly wanting in my duty to Government, and those interests intrusted to my charge, were I to take any steps grounded on them; the full conviction of the necessity of all measures, which I propose to carry out in this province, appearing to me the only general safeguard against any underhand dealings.

34. The great pressure of other business must be my excuse if I have failed in my notice of any of these accusations, but I shall be happy to afford further information on any point on which the Honourable the Governor in Council may wish for it.

I have, &c.

Camp Joonaghur,
28 December 1843.

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

No. 1304.

MINUTE by the Honourable Board.

1. UNDER the circumstances stated in this Report, I am not aware that we can for the present do more than direct the Political Agent in Kattywar to continue to exercise the utmost possible vigilance over the conduct of every member of his establishment, and immediately to report to Government should he hereafter have the slightest grounds for attaching credit to the charges made against any of the parties mentioned in the petition, dated the 14th September last. Mr. Malet's attention should at the same time be called to the Government letter, dated the 29th instant, directing him to institute inquiries into the truth or otherwise of the Regent Baee of Wudwan having, as entered in her accounts, paid during the last few years, large sums of money as bribes to parties in the employment of Government; and he should be directed to report whether the names of any of the individuals mentioned in this petition are amongst the names entered in the Baee's chopras as having received these bribes.

2. In the 12th para. Mr. Malet observes, that "it is not a secret that Golabraee at least has a share in the banking firm of Nursing Pursad Mahdoram, but I cannot suppose such a method of investing his money can be made a matter of accusation against him." Golabraee, the individual alluded to in this extract is, it appears from the 4th para. of Mr. Malet's letter, the native second in rank upon the Political Agent's establishment; I am surprised that Mr. Malet should consider the fact of this individual being a partner in a banking firm, to be no disqualification to his employment as a member of his establishment. It is clear that in expressing this opinion Mr. Malet has altogether lost sight of the Government circular, dated the 3d May 1805, which prohibits the employment in any department under Government of any European or native, who is directly or indirectly engaged in trade. This circular is to the following effect: "The Honourable the Governor in Council is pleased to prohibit you from employing European or native clerks in your department who may be engaged in trade directly or indirectly on their own account, or as agents for others; inattention to which rule and positive regulation (which is now prescribed in the spirit of the last order received from the Honourable the Court of Directors) will subject the Company's servants, who may continue to allow of such trading clerks, or other description of officers in the departments under them, to the highest displeasure of Government."

3. With reference to the provisions of this circular, Mr. Malet should be directed to require Goolabraee either immediately to relinquish all further connexion with the banking firm, and any other mercantile transactions in which he may be engaged, or otherwise to discharge him from the Political Agent's establishment; Mr. Malet should report to Government which of these alternatives this person may select. In the event of Goolabraee preferring to remain in his situation, Mr. Malet should carefully ascertain that he really abandons all mercantile pursuits, and in the event of his hereafter being at any time found engaged in trade he should be discharged from his situation.

Mr.

Anonymous Charges of Bribery against Members of the Kattywar Political Agency.

Mr. Malet should be directed to continue his exertions for discovering the writers of this petition, and should he on further inquiry be enabled to trace them out, he should report the circumstance to Government, and invite the parties to afford proof of the representations contained in the petition. In the course of his inquiries Mr. Malet should ascertain whether this petition has proceeded from either of the three persons mentioned in the 3d para. of his letter. In order to facilitate Mr. Malet's inquiries the original native petition, dated the 14th September last, should be forwarded to him, as it may be possible, that if not anonymous, the handwriting or signatures of the parties may be traced out.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
T. M'Mahon.
G. W. Anderson.
J. H. Crawford.

19 February 1844.

No. 695 of 1844.

No. 1305.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esquire, Secretary to Government, Bombay,
to *A. Malet*, Esquire, Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 129, dated the 28th of December 1843, reporting the result of the inquiries instituted by you on the petition from Shah Luckeedass Nemjee, preferring charges of bribery, corruption, and undue influence against certain members of your establishment.

2. In reply I am desired to request that you will continue to exercise the utmost possible vigilance over the conduct of every member of your establishment, and immediately to report to Government, should you hereafter have the slightest grounds for attaching credit to the charges made in the above-mentioned petition against any of the parties therein alluded to.

3. The Governor in Council at the same time requests your attention to my letter, No. 511, dated the 15th instant, directing you to institute inquiries into the truth or otherwise of the Regent Baee of Wudwan, having, as entered in her accounts, paid, during the last few years, large sums of money as bribes to parties in the employment of Government, and desires that you will report whether the names of any of the individuals mentioned in the above petition are amongst the names entered in the Baee's chopras as having received the bribes.

4. Adverting to the 12th para. of your letter, I am instructed to express the surprise of Government that you should consider the fact of "Goolabraee" being a partner in the banking firm of "Nursing Pursad Maldooram," to be no disqualification to his employment as a member of your establishment.

5. In expressing this opinion you have altogether lost sight of the circular order, dated the 3d May 1805, prohibiting the employment in any department under Government, of any European or native who is directly or indirectly engaged in trade.

6. With reference to the provisions of this circular order, you will be pleased to require Goolabraee, either immediately to relinquish all further connexion with the banking firm in question, as well as any other mercantile transactions in which he may be engaged, or to resign his situation on your establishment. In the event of Goolabraee preferring to retain his situation, you should carefully ascertain that he really abandons all mercantile pursuits, and should he hereafter at any time be found engaged in trade he must be discharged.

7. The Governor in Council requests that you will continue your exertions for discovering the writers of the petition in question, and that should you be enabled to trace them out, you will report the circumstance to Government, and at the same time invite the parties to afford proof of the representations therein contained.

8. I am instructed to request that you will, in the course of your inquiries, endeavour to ascertain whether this petition has proceeded from either of the

Anonymous Charges of Bribery against Members of the Kattywar Political Agency.

three persons mentioned in the 3d para. of your letter. With the view of facilitating your inquiries; the original is herewith enclosed, as it may be possible that if not anonymous, the handwriting or signatures of the parties may be recognised.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
29 February 1844.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 29 May 1844.

No. 3054. From the Political Agent in Kattewar to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th February last, No. 695.

2. I called on Captain Aston to question the sons of Kassenath at Joonaghur, and while at Amreelee I examined the goomasta of Mungul Sukeedas. All three have denied any knowledge of the petition; it must, therefore, I presume, for the present be considered anonymous, and the motives for it may be supposed to be those which usually prompt such communications. Copy of Captain Aston's letter of the 25th ultimo is enclosed.

3. The original may aid me in discovering the authors, though as it is not intended, I fancy, to publish its contents, I make use of it with caution.

4. The persons mentioned in the petition are not named in the Wudwan accounts. The Bhaee has been called on for explanation on the items alluded to, and a separate report on the subject will hereafter be transmitted to Government.

5. I continue to watch as vigilantly as I can the conduct of members of my establishment; but I must, in justice to myself and its members, allude to the smallness of European assistance which is afforded me. A glance at the map of the province, a thought on its varied races, interests, and the complicated and unceasing disputes which must ever exist in it, point it out as a place in which the greatest good must follow European superintendence, and in which much evil may arise from the want of it. It is now 14 months that I have been with but one assistant; the evils of this cannot be known without experience, but they may faintly be fancied from the knowledge the officers of Government possess of the immense weight of the petty detail of business, which cannot be neglected, while there are also pending various questions of the greatest importance, some of which have for years been in a state which may be likened to a money-bag, ready open to anyone who could gull the holder, himself anxiously wishing to be deceived.

6. I have thought it right to notice these things, that it may not be supposed from my silence that I consider I have enough European aid, and that I may not be said to think my establishment unexposed to very serious temptations.

7. It is now necessary for me to trouble you with a few remarks on Goolabraee's case with reference to the 6th para. of your letter. I enter on this subject with the more hesitation as the orders are rather peremptory; but my duty to my subordinates, and the circumstances of the case, will, I hope, prove my excuse.

8. It appears to me, that unless some channel of use is permitted to natives for their money, Government will be placed in a disadvantageous position as to selection for service, and persons of any wealth, by the possession of which their respectability is usually increased, will in this province not be available for employ.

9. A native is forbidden to enter into any mercantile speculations; private loans are prohibited. It is not the custom in this province for the educated classes to invest their money in land, and he is refused permission to hold bank shares. With these instructions, I may be pardoned for asking what he may do with any money he may happen to have inherited or to make.

10. Goolabraee's

Anonymous Charges of Bribery against Members of the Kattywar Political Agency.

10. Goolabraee's salary is 50 rupees a month; his family is respectable, his station responsible, and his character good, for I do not suppose it can have been hurt in the opinion of Government by anonymous calumnies; his connexion with the banking-house, except in degree, is no more than that of a proprietor of shares in the Bank of Bombay.

11. No banking house can in any way act on, or be acted on, by the Political Agent or his establishment; the talookdars draw hoondees on whomsoever they please; no money transactions, except under very peculiar circumstances, ever come before the Political Agent or his assistants for adjudication, and there is no other employment for money. May I therefore be pardoned for soliciting the indulgent consideration of Government to Goolabraee's case, without which, either a good servant will be lost, or perhaps rendered dishonest, or all power to make any use of his property will be taken from him.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Camp, Paleeteena, 8 April 1844.

From Captain *H. Aston*, Assistant Political Agent, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Kattewar.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, enclosing copy of one from the Secretary to Government, relating to the anonymous petition preferring charges of bribery, corruption, and undue influence against certain members of your establishment.

2. In reply, I beg to inform you that I have, in compliance with your instructions, called upon Bolakeeram and Nuthooram, sons of Kassedas, to state whether either of them was the author of the petition in question. They deny having at any time sent, or joined in sending, any petition whatever to Government, and from their manner in replying to my inquiries, no doubt whatever is left in my mind of the truth of their answers, nor are they persons at all likely to have been concerned in writing such a petition. They have both been employed for some years as humble but respectable mehtas in country business, one in the employ of Jubbur Leeladhur until his arrest, the other in the employ of Hubeeb Khan.

3. With reference to the fourth, fifth, and sixth paras. of the Government letter to which you have directed my particular attention, I beg to report that having communicated to Goolabraee the orders in the sixth para. of the Government letter, that he should immediately relinquish all connexion with the Rajcote banking firm, or resign his situation on your establishment, he expressed great, and I believe sincere surprise, that he should be held to have offended against the rule which prohibits those in the employ of Government, receiving pay, engaged in trade. He spoke promptly, and without the slightest apparent reserve on the subject, being anxious, it seemed, that the nature and extent of his interest in the concern should be perfectly known and understood. He said that many years before he was appointed to his present situation he was directly engaged in banking transactions, and that though he had little money, his credit was very extensive, and that even the Political Agent's records at Rajcote would show bills drawn upon him for 40,000 or 50,000 rupees at a time; but that after appointment to his present situation, he withdrew from all direct connexion with business. The pay of the situation, however, was very small in proportion to its respectability, and his expenses were necessarily greater in proportion to his greater respectability; besides that, he had already a wife and four children to provide for; he had therefore endeavoured to make a little money besides his pay in a way that he thought was not objectionable, and about two years ago he joined in establishing a banking firm in Rajcote under the name of Nursing Pursad Madhooraee; and in avoiding all responsibility and all interference or participation in the conduct of the business, which might have engrossed his time, or in other respects been inconvenient to him as a Government servant, he thought he had avoided offending against the order prohibiting engaging in trade. In consequence of his former banking occupations,

Anonymous Charges of Bribery against Members of the Kattywar Political Agency.

pations, the business, on its establishment, looked principally to him for connexion, and to Unutjee for money; but that the profits were to be shared equally, Unutjee, however, receiving six per cent. for the money above a certain amount that he might advance, Nursing Pursad, a monied man, on the part of Unnutjee, being the responsible person, and Goolabraee's brother, Madooraee, engaging in looking after his interests, and by his connexion attracting constituents or extending credit. All direct dealings with the whomias, the chiefs, and other landholders was strictly prohibited, and in no instance occurred, except perhaps with the chief of Rajcote, and this not on the responsibility of the firm, but on the individual responsibility of Unutjee, the Rajcote Karbarree. The total net profits of the concern last year amounted to about 800 rupees, or a little above.

4. Goolabraee added that Doolubjee, the Nuwanuggur Wukeel, before the establishment of the banking firm of Nursing Pursad Mahadooraee, had urged him very strongly to become a partner in his mercantile business, but that he had refused, because he thought it would not be proper as a good servant; notwithstanding the business was very extensive and flourishing, and Doolubjee very skilful.

5. I requested Goolabraee to put in writing the substance of what he had spoken; and I enclose translation of the memorandum he furnished in consequence. He now only awaits your final orders on the subject to obey them.

6. In consequence of the suspicion that has been thrown upon Goolabraee, on account of his interest in the banking concern, I deem it a duty in this place to mention that I received a high character of him from Captain Jacob; and though former events in this province have made me ever watchful of his conduct, I have never seen reason to suspect his honesty, but always the reverse. I have been gratified to learn that, from his family connexions and his former conduct in banking business, he is much respected, for usefulness of a karkoon in his situation is much increased by good charactor amongst the people. The tendency of trading by men of small salaries in Kattewar is rather to prevent than to cause corruption. To instance, among the numerous wukeels that appear before the Political Agent, the two extensively engaged in trading of Nowanuggur and Porebunder have been considered, I believe, the most honest or the least questionable of all. They have obtained by trade what their necessities might otherwise have instigated them to obtain by corruption. Of course you will not infer from this remark that I would for a moment defend trading by Government servants.

7. In conclusion, permit me, in alluding to the amount of salary of my karkoon, to mention, very respectfully, that I think it very inadequate to his office, and to solicit that you will kindly endeavour to get it raised. Without drawing any comparison, to show that his salary is small compared with that of others on your establishment, it will, I trust, suffice to justify this recommendation, that both Captains Lang and Jacob considered the first assistant's karkoon inadequately paid; 50 rupees a month does not appear to me nearly enough to command that talent and integrity which his situation calls for. The last karkoon had the necessary talent, but endeavoured by dishonesty to add to the fixed remuneration of his office; the present karkoon has the talent, and hitherto has, I believe, evinced the integrity necessary; but this integrity will probably be subjected to very severe tests. Elevated in the view of the people of the country into a position of considerable official rank, in spite of himself, and after all that can be done to avert any impression that he can have any independent power, or authority, or undue influence, he must be subjected to strong temptation to add to his income something besides his salary, to keep up what he is likely to consider a necessary degree of respectability.

I have, &c.

25 March 1844. (signed) *H. Aston*,
Assistant Political Agent.

(True copy.)

(signed) A. Malet, Political Agent.

Anonymous Charges of Bribery against Members of the Kattywar Political Agency.

TRANSLATION of a Memorandum from *Goolabraee*.

WITH respect to the prohibition to Government servants keeping shops, or in other way engaging in trade, to which I am directed to attend, it is publicly known that no servant of Government receiving pay must have any direct dealings in trading or farming with the people of the country. The order to this effect is in force. If any person have caused the Sirkar to doubt regarding my connexion with the firm of Nursing Pursad Mahoodooraee, established two years ago at Rajcote, I beg to state the concern is not mine. The head of the firm, the responsible person, is no relation of mine; the other partner is my brother. Moreover, I neither go to the house, nor am I to go there, and my name is not taken in the firm. In the little profits of the business I have a share, and my part is merely to inspect and audit the accounts annually.

Because, through the Sircar's favour, my situation is honourable, though my pay is small, expenses, some voluntary and some contrary to my wishes, must fall upon me, according to the respectability of my position, therefore have I thus schemed to meet those expenses. In this there is no way (direct) connexion of a Government servant (with trade), nor is it (in this respect) at all questionable. Had it been a questionable matter I would not have thought of it.

If the Sirkar wishes to inspect the books of the firm, they shall be immediately produced; and, moreover, if the Sirkar doubts in the matter, I will cause my interest in the concern to cease. The Sirkar being my protector will in some way take care of me. I am ready to do whatever the Sircar orders.

(True translation.)

23 March 1844. (signed) *H. Aston*,
Assistant Political Agent.

(True copy)

(signed) A. Malet,
Political Agent.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Honourable Mr. *Crawford* and the Honourable Mr. *Reid*. No. 3055.

THE petition being anonymous, is not deserving of any further notice.

2. In regard to Goolabraee, nothing can be more objectionable than his being in any way mixed up in banking transactions in the province in which he fills a situation in the Political Department of trust and responsibility.

3. Lieutenant Aston's statement is by no means satisfactory, and it is inconsistent. The former orders of Government, in regard to Goolabraee, must be carried out without further delay.

4. At the same time I am fully prepared to admit that our native functionaries in the Political Department are very badly paid, with reference more particularly to the peculiar temptations to which they are exposed; and I should be very glad to provide against so great an evil. The power of the purse does not, however, appertain to the subordinate government.

8 May 1844. (signed) *G. Arthur.*
J. H. Crawford.
L. R. Reid.

No. 1645 of 1844.

From *E. H. Townsend*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Kattewar. No. 3056.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 45, dated the 8th ultimo, forwarding copy of a communication from your assistant, Captain Aston, dated the 25th of the preceding month, reporting that he has been unable to discover the writer of the petition referred to you with Mr. Secretary Willoughby's letter No. 319, dated the 16th December last; and to inform you that as this petition appears to be anonymous, the Honourable the Governor-in-Council considers the representation it contains to be undeserving of further notice.

Anonymous Charges of Bribery against Members of the Kattywar Political Agency.

2. In respect to Goolabraee, however, I am instructed to state that nothing can be more objectionable than that individual being in any way mixed up in banking transactions in the province in which he fills a situation in the Political Department of trust and responsibility; the Governor in Council considers Captain Aston's statement with regard to Goolabraee to be inconsistent, and by no means satisfactory; and I am desired to request that you will carry into effect, without further delay, the instructions in regard to this person, contained in Mr. Chief Secretary Willoughby's, No. 695, dated the 29th February last.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle, 24 May 1844. (signed) *E. H. Townsend,*
Secretary to Government.

(True extract.)

(signed) J. P. Willoughby,
Chief Secretary.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Proceedings relative to Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall, and other Members of the Kattywar Political Agency Establishment.

Political Department, No. 44 of 1846.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable East India Company, London.

Honourable Sirs,

We beg to forward to your Honourable Court an extract from the proceedings of this Government on the subject of certain charges of bribery and corruption which were preferred during the years 1844 and 1845 against Bhugwanlal Mudunjee, native agent to the Political Agent at Rajcote, and other native members of the establishment of that agency.

2. With a letter, dated the 24th August 1844, Mr. Malet, the Political Agent in Kattywar, submitted the result of an investigation which had been instituted on the 13th of the same month, by himself and his first assistant, Captain Aston, into the following charges of bribery which had been preferred against Bhugwunlal Mudunjee by a person named Man Khan, formerly in the service of the Nawaub of Joonaghur, but who had latterly absconded from that place.

1st. That some time during the year 1841, he (Man Khan), by order of Nuthoo Khan, at that time a confidential adviser of the Nawaub of Joonaghur, gave 2,000 korees to Bhugwunlal as a bribe.

2d. That on another occasion during the same year, he, by an order from the same party, gave Bhugwunlal as a further bribe a pair of shawls and a gold chain.

3. On the accuser, Man Khan, being examined by Captain Aston, he greatly prevaricated in his evidence, and was unable to substantiate either of the above charges. In submitting the result of this investigation, Mr. Malet described Man Khan as "a convicted thief, and a notorious bad character," and recommended that as a punishment to Man Khan for having preferred the above false charges, he might be delivered up to the Nawaub of Joonaghur, who was desirous of obtaining possession of his person, in order that he might be compelled to satisfy certain claims preferred against him by the Nawaub.

4. We concurred with Mr. Malet in opinion that the above charges were groundless, but as no court exists in Kattywar in which Man Khan could be tried for defamation of character, we informed Mr. Malet that it would not be expedient

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

expedient to deliver him up to the Nawaub of Joonaghur, in consequence of his having preferred these false charges. We pointed out to Mr. Malet that this course, if adopted, would operate as a check hereafter against well-founded complaints, but that if the Nawaub had any valid claims against Man Khan, they should be treated of independently, without reference to the false accusations he had preferred against Bhugwunlal.

5. With a letter, dated the 12th April 1845, Mr. Malet submitted to Government the result of an inquiry, which he had concluded on the preceding day, into the four following additional charges of bribery which had been preferred against Bhugwunlal Mudunjee by a person named Nouroodeen, a dismissed minister of the Mangrole Estate. The result of this investigation was, as in the former case, the entire acquittal of the accused.

1st. That in the year 1839-40, Bhugwanlal obtained by extortion, from the accuser, Nouroodeen, a pair of bullocks.

2d. That in 1840-41, Bhugwunlal received from Nouroodeen as a bribe a gold chain and a piece of gold bullion.

3d. That in 1843-44, Bhugwunlal received from Nouroodeen as a further bribe two gold chains and a gold necklace.

4th. That during the same year Bhugwunlal received from Nouroodeen, under similar circumstances to the above, a gold chain, of the value of 1,200 korees.

6. Nouroodeen alleged that he had given these bribes to Bhugwanlal for the purpose of securing his good-will in the adjustment of certain matters with the Joonaghur and Mangrole Durbars, in which his (Nouroodeen's) interests were concerned.

7. For our general sentiments in regard to each of these charges, we beg to refer to our Chief Secretary's letter to Mr. Malet, dated the 29th April last, copy of which forms enclosure No. 9, to Collection No. 1, accompanying this despatch. From this letter your Honourable Court will observe, that we are of opinion that Mr. Malet conducted this inquiry with impartiality, and with an anxious desire to elicit the truth. We saw no reasons for dissenting from the conclusions at which Mr. Malet had arrived at the close of the investigation, acquitting Bhugwanlal of the whole of the above four charges, and we accordingly confirmed his proceedings.

8. In intimating the above decision to Mr. Malet, we informed him that we were glad to observe that he seemed to be fully impressed with a sense of the necessity of keeping a vigilant watch over his native establishment, who are undoubtedly exposed to great temptations in a country like Kattywar. We at the same time observed to Mr. Malet, that the only mode in which these temptations could be diminished was by his being easy of access to all, by transacting business in the most public manner, and by never placing too much confidence in any individual on his establishment.

9. We directed Mr. Malet to prepare an abstract of the present case in the Guzerattee language, which should also contain an explanation of the grounds on which Bhugwanlal had been fully acquitted of the above charges, and a few well-judged remarks pointing out the folly of any parties having causes pending before the Political Agent in Kattywar, being induced to believe that they could compass their ends by bribery. We directed that this document, when completed, should be read in open Durbar, and be afterwards posted up, in a conspicuous situation, in his cutcherry.

10. With a further letter, dated the 3d May 1845, Mr. Malet submitted to Government some additional evidence which he had obtained subsequent to his having closed his inquiry into the above (4) charges against Bhugwanlal, corroborative of his innocence of those charges. In reply, we referred Mr. Malet to the decision we had already passed, confirming his acquittal of Bhugwanlal.

11. With a letter, dated the 15th April 1845, Mr. Malet submitted his proceedings connected with an inquiry which he had instituted on the preceding

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

day into the three following charges of bribery which had been preferred by Nowrodeen (the accuser in the case last alluded to) against Brijlal Mondonjee, a carkoon on the Political Agent's establishment, and the brother of Bhugwanlal. This investigation terminated, as in the two former cases, in the acquittal of the accused.

1st. That Nowroodeen paid as a bribe to Brijlal Mondonjee, in the year 1838–39, the sum of 700 korees.

2d. That in 1840–41, the same gave to the same as a bribe two or three gold mohurs, and a piece of gold bullion.

3d. That in 1840–41, the same gave to the same a gold chain and gold ring as a further bribe.

12. In reply we informed Mr. Malet, that the contradictions of the witnesses examined in this case were of so serious a nature that we concurred in the propriety of his having acquitted the accused of the above charges, which, we considered it very probable, had, as believed by Mr. Malet, originated in a conspiracy, having in view the ruin of Bhugwanlal and his family.

13. With a letter, dated the 13th May last, Mr. Malet submitted his proceedings connected with an inquiry which he had concluded on the previous day into the four following charges of bribery which had been preferred by Janejah Mudar Sing Grasseea of Trumba against Goolabraee Ambashum, a carcoon on the Political Agent's establishment, employed with his first assistant. Mr. Malet acquitted the accused of the whole of the charges preferred against him.

1st. That the accuser, Mudar Sing, had concluded an agreement with Goolabraee, through an agent, for the payment to Goolabraee of a bribe of 5,000 korees, of which amount he alleged Goolabraee had, in part payment, received 1,552 korees and other amounts (not specified) realised from the sale of some grain.

2d. That a silver anclet and 200 rupees had been received by Goolabraee from the same party as a bribe.

14. We saw no reason for doubting the justice of Mr. Malet's decision acquitting Goolabraee of the above charges, and we accordingly confirmed his proceedings.

15. In two letters dated the 10th and 15th May last, to which we beg to refer, Mr. Malet afforded information which threw considerable light on the conduct and motives of the parties who had preferred the above charges against his native establishment. The facts mentioned in these letters satisfied us of the correctness of the impressions we had previously formed, that these accusations were false, and had originated with disappointed men, who had been discarded from office. With the former of these letters Mr. Malet forwarded translation of a petition which had been addressed to him by Nowroodeen, calling in question the justice of Mr. Malet's decision in acquitting Bhugwanlal and Goolabraee of the charges alluded to in 5th to 7th, and the 13th and 14th paragraphs of this despatch, and accusing him of partiality to the accused. In reply, we informed Mr. Malet we considered his explanation quite satisfactory, with the exception, that whilst Bhugwanlal had been under suspension during the investigation of the charges preferred against him, he ought not to have been permitted to frequent the Political Agent's office, or in any way to have been employed by his first assistant, Captain Aston.

16. We again, on this occasion, informed Mr. Malet that we relied on his maintaining a vigilant watch over his native establishment, since the circumstances reported in the several communications he had addressed to Government on the subject of the above charges, proved that they are exposed to great temptations, from parties desirous of obtaining their interest and influence, by means of bribes.

17. In a further letter, dated the 16th May last, Mr. Malet reported, that Man Khan* and two other persons, named Russeedass and Kubba Sandee, the two

* *Vide* para. 2 of this despatch.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

two latter as agents from Nowroodeen, had proceeded from Rajcote to Bombay for the purpose of prosecuting their accusations against Bhugwanlal and other members of the Political Agent's establishment, and endeavouring to induce Government to order a re-investigation of the charges against them, which had already been investigated by Mr. Malet. As these charges had been carefully and impartially investigated, and as every opportunity had at the time been afforded to the accusers of Bhugwanlal and the other members of the Political Agent's establishment to substantiate their charges, but in which they had failed, we are of opinion that no advantage would result from allowing the inquiry into these charges to be reopened. We therefore resolved not to receive the agents alluded to by Mr. Malet, who had proceeded to Bombay in the hope of affecting this object, and to return to them any petitions which they might, during their stay at the Presidency, address to Government in regard to these charges, with an intimation that we had resolved not to pay any attention to their representations on this subject.

18. About this time we received a petition from Nowroodeen direct, alleging that the investigation into the charges which himself and others had preferred against the native members of the Political Agent's establishment had been unfairly investigated by Mr. Malet, and soliciting that some other officer might be appointed by Government to re-investigate them. In reply, we informed Nowroodeen that Mr. Malet had investigated the above charges with impartiality, and had acquitted the accused on every charge. That the whole of Mr. Malet's decision had, after the fullest consideration, been confirmed by Government, and that we could not therefore comply with his request for the appointment of another officer to re-investigate these charges.

19. We next beg to submit to your Honourable Court, in Collection No. 2, four representations, to which we beg to refer, from Mr. Henry Foster (an Indo-Briton), late head accountant to the Kattywar Political Agency, dated the 1st and 4th October, and the 7th and 10th November last, advancing various charges of bribery and corruption against native members of Mr. Malet's establishment, and charging his superior, Mr. Malet, with having, on several occasions, exercised towards himself (Mr. Foster) harsh and uncourteous treatment, and at the same time animadverting, in the instances detailed in his letters, on the official conduct of Mr. Malet.

20. On receipt of these representations, we referred them for the report and explanation of Mr. Malet. Mr. Malet's replies to these references, to which we beg to refer, form Enclosures Nos. 4 and 5, to Collection No. 2, accompanying this despatch. We also beg to call attention to a precis which has been prepared by our Chief Secretary, containing the substance of each of Mr. Foster's complaints, and the explanation afforded by Mr. Malet upon each of them.

21. For our general sentiments upon Mr. Foster's complaints and charges, we beg to refer to our Chief Secretary's letter to Mr. Malet, dated the 15th January last. From this letter your Honourable Court will observe, that we are of opinion that Mr. Malet's explanation is generally satisfactory; that Mr. Foster's charges are totally devoid of foundation; and that he preferred these charges with the view of indulging a rancorous and acrimonious feeling against Mr. Malet and certain members of his establishment, in consequence of some fancied slights; and that in order to embarrass Mr. Malet, he had constituted himself a redresser of grievances, and a referee for the complaints of all unsuccessful parties, whose affairs may have come under the control of the Rajcote Agency.

22. In consequence of the insubordinate conduct evinced by Mr. Foster towards his superior, Mr. Malet, as proved from these documents, and the offensive and unfounded imputations which he has cast upon the character of that gentleman, we have felt it our duty to remove Mr. Foster from his situation of head accountant to the Rajcote Agency. We have subsequently received a letter from Mr. Foster, dated the 29th January last, expressing contrition for his misconduct, and stating that he cannot but view his removal from his situation as a just punishment, but soliciting that, in consideration of his past services, some other appointment may be conferred upon him, and pledging himself, in

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwún Lall and others.

this event, that his "future conduct shall amply atone for the past." In reply, we have informed Mr. Foster, that he has not been declared by Government ineligible for future employment in the public service, but that it is not in our power to appoint him to any particular situation.

We have, &c.
(signed) *G. W. Arthur.*
J. H. Crawford.
L. R. Reid.

Bombay Castle,
6 April 1846.

Extract Political Letter to Bombay, dated 29 July (No. 20), 1846.

Kattywur.

Para. 2. The most important subject brought to our notice in these communications, is an investigation into numerous charges of corruption against several principal members of the Political Agent's native establishment, viz. Bhugwunlal, the native agent, his brother, Brijlal, and Goolabraee, the karkoon attached to the first assistant.

3. Most of the charges broke down by discrepancies of an unequivocal character in the evidence of the witnesses, and we agree with Mr. Malet, and with your Government, that none of the charges were established. The principal accusers were Hubeeb Khan and Noorooddeen, dismissed ministers of Joonaghur and Mangrole, and there is reason to believe that their object was to promote their personal views by the ruin of Mr. Malet's confidential officers.

4. We see no reason to ascribe to Mr. Malet any bias in favour of the accused, or any want of zeal in the inquiry; but he committed a great error, which you pointed out, and on which you should have animadverted more strongly. Bhugwunlal had been very properly suspended from office during the inquiry. The principal object of such suspension is to prevent the official character of the accused from overawing the witnesses, and to show that the confidence of Government is withheld from an officer who is under any serious accusation, until he has completely exonerated himself. Yet the suspension of Bhugwunlal was almost nominal, for he was permitted to "come to the cutcherry and sit in his usual place,"* and was even employed on some matters of business. We believe that Mr. Malet was solely influenced by the value of Bhugwunlal's official experience, and the difficulty he felt in dispensing with his services, But he ought to have been sensible that he was taking a course likely to frustrate the objects of the inquiry.

* Mr. Malet's letter, dated 10th May 1845.

5. Even the partial suspension was removed as soon as the charges against Bhugwunlal himself were dismissed, though others were still pending against his alleged confederate Goolabraee. Accordingly the accuser of Goolabraee "petitioned" Mr. Malet "not to carry on the inquiry, as the witnesses were afraid, in consequence of Bhugwunlal's restoration to office, to tell the truth."† We do not attach much importance to this assertion, which may be the last refuge of an unsuccessful accuser; but it was wrong to give even an apparent colour to it.

† Mr. Malet's letter, dated 13th May 1845.

7. The frequency of charges of corruption against the native establishment (which have rapidly succeeded one another in Kattywar for many years,) is a serious evil; and when the charges are groundless (as they have generally been found to be), they must be ascribed to a general impression that the native officers have the chief influence in the conduct of affairs, that the decisions of Government are the effect of their advice, and may be reversed, if by any means they can be expelled from office. It is of great importance to remove this impression from the minds of the people; and above all, to avoid anything which might tend to strengthen it. We observe that it is stated in a petition‡ to Government, and we do not find it anywhere denied by Mr. Malet that he "does not know Guzerattee, and the native agent alone goes to his bungalow to read petitions." All petitions and every proceeding on them should be read *vivâ voce* in open kutcherry, in the presence of the parties. There is no other effectual way to convince the people that their statements are properly attended to by the agent himself. We are also decidedly of opinion, that any officer who is so little acquainted with the language of the district, as to be dependent on his native omlah for the interpretation of complaints made to him, is unfit to hold such an office at that of Political Agent in Kattywar, and we desire your particular attention to this most essential point.

‡ Dated 19th November 1844, in Cons. of 23d April 1845.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

EXTRACT Political Letter from Bombay, dated 25 March (No. 50) 1848.

Para. 1. IN a letter dated the 18th August last, Major Lang, the Political Agent in Katteewar, reported to Government that he had found it requisite to suspend from their situations, Bhugwan Lall Mudunjee, head native agent to the Katteewar Political Agency, and Goolabraee Ambashunkur, head karkoon on the establishment of the first assistant to the Political Agent, in consequence of their having received presents from the chief of Rajcote, on the occasion of their celebrating certain religious ceremonies, the same being in contravention of the orders quoted in the margin,* issued by Government on the 28th November 1828, and the 25th February 1846, prohibiting the interchange of gifts by native servants in its employ.

* *See* below.

2. The charges preferred against Bhugwan Lall were, that during the year 1845-46, he had received from the Rajcote Durbar, through the intervention of its karbaree, Anuntjee Amurchund, a present of 500 korees as "wastoo," on the occasion of his performing the usual ceremony on the opening of a new house, and a further similar present as "junoee" on the occasion of his son's investiture with the Brahminical cord.

3. Bhugwan Lall, in the first instance, denied all knowledge of either of these transactions, and was supported in his denial by Anuntjee Amurchund. Subsesequently, however, Bhugwan Lall admitted having received the former of these presents, but excused himself on the ground that this transaction had occurred previous to the publication in Kattywar of the Government prohibition (of the 25th February 1846) against the interchange of presents on such occasions.

4. Bhugwan Lall further admitted having, subsequent to the date of the Government order above alluded to, about the time of his son's investiture with the Brahminical thread, received from Anuntjee Amurchund, a second sum of 500 koorees, but declared that this money had been given to him, not as a present, but in part payment of a sum of 1,199 rupees, which he had a short time previously made over to Anuntjee for the purpose of conveying it for him to Joonaghur.

5 Apart from admissions made by Bhugwan Lall, some extracts obtained by Major Lang from the account books of the Rajkote Durbar, and from those belonging to the Karbaree Anuntjee, taken in connexion with certain erasures and alterations, which, evidently for the purpose of concealment, had been made in these accounts, conjoined to the facts elicited in the course of the investigation into these charges, established to our satisfaction the fact, that Bhagwan Lall received both of these sums of money as presents from the Rajcote Durbar.

6. As one of these presents was received by Bhugwan Lall subsequent to the promulgation in Kattywar of the Government order of the 25th February 1846, and as this person, by his equivocation during this investigation, proved himself undeserving of future confidence, we have directed his dismissal from the office of native agent, and we have prohibited his re-employment in any capacity under Government.

7. For the discreditable part which the karberee Anuntjee Amurchund took in this transaction, we should have deemed it our duty to issue a prohibition against his being recognised hereafter by the Political Agent, as the agent or minister of any chief in Kattywar, but for the circumstance that our doing so would at the

* Government Order, dated 25th February 1846.—"I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to annex, for your information, copy of a circular letter issued from the Revenue Department under date the 28th November 1828, prohibiting the practice of the interchange of gifts between a native officer and his subordinates on the occasion of marriages or other domestic ceremonies, and to acquaint you that Government has resolved that this order shall be made applicable to native servants employed in the Political Department."

Government Order, dated 28th November 1828.—"The Honourable the Governor in Council directs, that no komavisdar, or any other public officer, is to receive, on the occasion of marriages or other ceremonies in his family, or among his connexion, any nuggur, chaudha, or present, under any denomination whatever, from the public servants or inhabitants of the district in which they may be employed, and persons contravening this order shall be liable to be judicially prosecuted and dismissed. You will be pleased to communicate the above to all your native servants."

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

the present moment be likely to disarrange the affairs of the Joonaghur state. We, however, deemed it requisite to direct that his services be for the future strictly confined to the Joonaghur Durbar; and we instructed Major Lang to issue a prohibitory order against his being employed in any other state or talooka in the province. We also directed that the honorary marks of attention which it has heretofore been customary to accord to Anuntjee Amerjee, on the occasion of his visits to the Political Agent on matters connected with the affairs of Joonaghur, be for the future discontinued.

8. Major Lang subsequently represented that the circulation of a proclamation forbidding Anuntjee's employment as karbaree, by any other chief in Kattywar would be felt as a stigma by the Nawab of Joonaghur, and stated that he had already written to the Regent Baee of Rajcote, to direct his dismissal from employment in the management of that talooka, we have accordingly rescinded this portion of our orders, with instructions however to Major Lang, to interpose his authority whenever requisite, to prevent Anuntjee being taken into service in any other part of Kattywar.

* *Vide* para. 1 of this despatch.

9. The charges preferred against Goolabraee Ambashunker,* head karkoon on the establishment of the first assistant to the Political Agent in Kattywar, were, 1st. That he had received a bribe of 60 rupees from the grassias of the village of Suttoree. 2d. That he had received from the Rajcote Durbar, on the occasion of a religious meeting held in his house at Rajkote, in September 1846, a present of a turban of the value of 60 korees, and 80 korees in money: and, 3d. That he had received a bribe of 500 rupees from the son of the Kattee chief of Jusdhun.

10. In regard to the first of these charges, it appeared on investigation, that a sum of money of the amount specified (60 rupees), had been actually paid by the grassias of Sutoora to two vakeels whom they had entertained in their behalf on the occasion of an investigation by the first assistant to the Political Agent into a boundary dispute, in which they were interested, under a belief that the amount was to be paid to Goolabraee as a bribe.

11. It was, however, during the investigation into this charge, satisfactorily established that this money was retained by the two vakeels above-mentioned for their own use, and that they had endeavoured to establish Goolabraee's complicity in the transaction with the view of effecting his ruin. Under these circumstances, we have directed the dismissal from practice before the political authorities in Kattywar of one of these vakeels, whose participation in this conspiracy was fully established, and we have interdicted his future employment by any of the tributary chiefs of the province. The proof against the other vakeel supposed to be implicated, not being conclusive, although the suspicions against him were very strong, we have informed Major Lang that his continued practice should depend on his former character.

12. From the proofs adduced in support of the second charge† against Goolabraee, we were of opinion that no doubt existed of the fact, that the presents in question were made by the chief of Rajkote and his family to Goolabraee, on the occasion referred to. For this offence, Major Lang suggested that Goolabraee should be suspended from his situation for the period of three months, but as we did not consider this a sufficient punishment, we have increased the period of suspension to six months, and have directed that he receive no salary during this period. We have also directed that after the expiration of this term, Goolabraee be employed for some time to come on some other duty than that of karkoon to the first assistant to the Political Agent.

13. In the absence of any substantial proof against Goolabraee, of his having acted in a corrupt manner on the occasion alluded to in the third‡ charge, we have deemed it unnecessary to take any notice of this allegation further than to direct Major Lang to intimate to him that Government trusts that the punishment of suspension for six months, with which it has been requisite to visit him (as

† Namely, of his having received from the Rajkote Durbar, on the occasion of a religious meeting held in his house at Rajkote in September 1846, a present of a turban, of the value of 60 korees, and 80 korees in money.

‡ Namely, having received a bribe of 500 rupees from the son of the Kattee chief of Jusdhun.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

(as reported in the preceding paragraph), will have the effect of inducing him to observe the strictest integrity for the future. In this case also we have considered it requisite to direct the dismissal from practice before the political authorities in Kattywar of a vakeel named Rewa Shunker, who was proved to have acted in an improper manner in the transaction.

14. With reference to these cases, Major Lang suggested for the consideration of Government, that a proclamation should he issued in Kattywar, limiting the period of three months for the receipt of complaints of bribery against the members of his own and his assistant's establishments. In reply, we informed Major Lang that we did not approve of this suggestion; that we are fully sensible of the inconvenience which such complaints occasion in the discharge of the onerous duties of the Kattywar Agency, and of the amount of time their investigation of necessity occupies; but that these evils are unavoidable, and that there can be no more important object kept in view than the purification of all public establishments from the taint of bribery and corruption.

Extract Political Letter to Bombay, dated 9 August (No. 26) 1848.

Kattywar.

2. We regret to observe that Bhugwanloll, these native agent, has been convicted of receiving on two occasions presents of 500 rupees from the Rajkote Durbar. He has, in consequence, been dismissed from office and declared disqualified for future employment.

3. Annuntjee Umeerchund, the carbarree, by whom these presents were made, has, in addition to that offence, been guilty of the most shameless falsehood during the investigation. The Baee of Rajkote has, in consequence, been required to dismiss him from employment in that talooka, but he is still suffered to retain his place in the Joonaghur Council of Administration, which is stated by Captain Lang to give him the entire control of Joonaghur affairs. This individual had formerly been proclaimed incapable of transacting business with the British Agent, in consequence of implication in a bribery case, and it was with great regret that we had sanctioned his employment at Joonaghur. On that occasion, he was warned (in the words of your Political Letter, No. 27 of 1844, para. 51,) "that should he at any time, while entrusted with a share in the management of the affairs of Joonaghur, mix himself up with any intrigues, or give the Political Agent cause to withdraw his confidence from him, he will immediately be removed from the ministry, and the provisions of the above proclamation will again be enforced." After his present conduct, we cannot reconcile ourselves to his retaining his highly important employment; and unless the "disarrangement" which you apprehend in Joonaghur affairs from his removal is of a far more serious character than we can deem at all probable, we desire that the original interdiction against his being admitted to transact business with the British Agency be put in force.

Extract Political Letter from Bombay, dated 31 October (No. 157) 1848.

Coll. No. 4, Pol. Cons. 1848, May 29th, No. 4572 to 4574.

9. In our despatch, dated the 25th March (No. 50) of 1848, we informed your Honourable Court, that charges of having received bribes and presents had been prefered against Goolabraee Ambashunker, head carkoon on the establishment of the first assistant to the Political Agent in Kattywar, and that having considered his guilt to have been substantiated upon one of these charges, we had directed his suspension from office for a period of six months. We now beg to transmit copy of a letter from Major Lang, the Political Agent in Kattywar, dated the 5th May last, reporting the result of an investigation into a further charge preferred against this individual, of his having in the year 1846, accepted a bribe of 1,000 rupees from Wala Hathya Oghur, the Kattie Grassia, of Habreea. We see no reason to dissent from the opinion entertained by Major Lang, that this charge is unfounded.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Kattywar.

EXTRACT Political Letter to Bombay, dated 21 February (No. 8) 1849.

Para. 14. WE observe that a fresh charge has been brought against Goolabraee, head carcoon to the first assistant, of having corruptly received 1,000 rupees, but that on investigation it was not established. We approve your orders, "that in any future case of a vakeel being selected for Government employ, his accounts with his former principals should be settled, or at least the amount defined previous to his nomination," as unsettled pecuniary transactions offer great opportunities of disguising corrupt practices.

EXTRACT Political Letter from Bombay, dated 16 March (No. 18) 1849.

Para. 7. ON the 6th October 1848, a representation was addressed to Government purporting to proceed from a person named Kusulsung Unarsung (but which we have subsequently ascertained to have been an assumed name,) preferring charges of bribery and corruption against some of the native members of the establishment of the Political Agent in Kattywar; having referred this representation to Major Lang, we have reason, from his reports, to believe that no grounds existed for the charges therein preferred.

8. It having been stated in this representation, that Bhugwanlal, late native Agent of the Rajcote Agency, whose dismissal with disgrace from the service of Government we reported to your Honourable Court in our despatch, dated the 25th March (No. 50) of 1848, was at the date of the representation in the employment of the Nawab of Joonaghur, we informed Major Lang that if this were the case, it ought not to be allowed. We at the same time observed, that as a general rule, we were of opinion that all persons dismissed from the service of Government for bribery and corruption, not being natives of Kattywar, should not be permitted to remain in that province. Under the circumstances, however, reported in a subsequent letter from Major Lang, dated the 15th January last, we have authorised his keeping in abeyance, for the present, the above interdict against the employment of Bhugwanlall by the Nawab of Joonaghur.

EXTRACT Political Letter to Bombay, dated 29 August (No. 24) 1849.

Kattywar.

Para. 5. WE regret that the Nuwab of Joonaghur should be so deficient in respectable officers, that Major Lang did not think it expedient to prevent him from giving employment to Bhugwunlal, a former servant on the Agency establishment, dismissed for receiving presents from chiefs and others, on occasions of his family marriages and other ceremonies. We shall not interfere with the exercise of your discretion in the case as it at present stands; but if the suspicion against Bhugwunlal of being implicated in a case of actual bribery should be confirmed, you, of course, will not permit his employment by any chief in the province.

EXTRACT Political Letter from Bombay, dated 14 October (No. 87) 1850.

Letter to, No. 24, dated 29th August 1849.

(Para. 5.) The Court express regret that the Nuwab of Joonaghur should be so deficient in respect to officers, that Major Lang did not think it expedient to prevent him from giving employment to Bhugwunlal, a former servant on the Agency establishment, dismissed for receiving presents from chiefs and others, on occasion of his family marriages and other ceremonies. The Court state that they shall not interfere with the exercise by Government of its discretion in the case, as it at present stands, but that if the suspicion against Bhugwunlall of being implicated in a case of actual bribery should be confirmed, Government of course will not permit his employment by any chief in the province.

48. THIS para. has been communicated to the Political Agent in Kattywar. Your Honourable Court will perceive from Major Lang's letter, No. 86, dated the 1st July last, that he had up to that time been unable to investigate the charge of bribery alleged against Bhugwunlall, formerly agent at Rajkote.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Extract Political Letter from Bombay, dated 25 July (No. 57) 1851.

Para. 10. In continuation of the 48th para. of our despatch, dated the 14th October (No. 87) of 1850, we have the honour to forward copy of a letter from Major Lang, dated the 19th April last, submitting a report from his third assistant, Lieutenant Black, of the result of his inquiry into the charge some time since preferred against Bhugwanlal Muddonjee, of his having, while native agent to the Political Agent in Kattywar, received on various occasions, bribes to the amount of about 30,000 rupees from the agents of the widow of the late, and mother of the present Thakoor of Choora, with the view of obtaining for her the management of the affairs of that talooka, during the minority of the young chief, in opposition to the claims of the mother of the deceased chief. This investigation has terminated unsatisfactorily; the elder lady having refused to allow an examination of the Durbar books of account, but sufficient information has been elicited, to leave no doubt that subsequent to the death of the late Thakoor of Choora, considerable sums belonging to the estate have been misappropriated by the mother and the widow of the deceased chief, and others.

Kattywar.

Extract Political Letter to Bombay, dated 2 January (No. 1) 1852.

Para. 15. The inquiry by Captain Aston into the charges against Bhugwuntlal Muddenjee, formerly native agent, of having received bribes from the agents of Baee Jeteeba, of Choora, has not elicited proof of guilt, though ground has been shown for strong suspicion. This unsatisfactory result is apparently owing to the Baee's persisting in withholding the Durbar books of account. Being satisfied that the Baee has squandered large sums belonging to the estates, you have deprived her of the management, and placed the estate under attachment. The Baee being thus no longer in power, the books which she withheld may now perhaps be obtained, and the truth discovered.

No. 6038.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 16 October 1844.

Government, No. 99 of 1844.—General, No. 395 of 1844.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *E. H. Townsend*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

1. I have the honour to transmit enclosures, as per margin, in the investigation of an accusation of bribery against Bhugwanlal Muddunjee, my native agent, which is without the shadow of proof. It would be unnecessary to trouble Government with these proceedings, were it not that in consequence of the extreme inconvenience and injury to the public service, created by false complaints, I wish the present one not to go unpunished. Man Khan having been long in service at Joonaghur, and the Nuwab having accusations against him, I would suggest that he might be delivered up to him.

1. Petition from Man Khan, 7th August.
2. Statement by ditto, 13th August.
3. Letter from the Nuwab, 17th August.
4. Letter from Rany Wala of Jetpor, 16th August.
5. Abstracts of characters of Man Khan by various people, dated 23d August.

2. On receipt of the petition, No. 1, on the 13th August, I requested Captain Aston to take the petitioner's deposition, as I was busily occupied. It forms No. 2. Even had I known so much of the man's character as I now do, I believe that, notwithstanding the exceeding improbability of the accusations, it would have been my duty to inquire into them.

3. The direct accusations are two. The first, that the petitioner and Hussen Khan, a horsekeeper, gave 2,000 korees to Bhugwanlal, by order of Nuthoo Khan. The proofs of this are stated to be the chopras taken away by Jemadar Syud bin Nasir for the Nuwab, and a horsekeeper, Husseen, who helped to put the money in the cart.

4. All the property of Nuthoo Khan was delivered over to the Nuwab by Hubeeb Khan, after an inventory had been taken by the Nuwab's mehtas, superintended

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

intended by my judicial karkoon. Syud bin Nasir Jemadar, as the Nuwab states, was not even employed in the business; the horsekeeper is not forthcoming.

5. The second accusation is, that the petitioner and Mahomed Sadik gave to Bhugwanlal, in the public road, where numerous people must have been with him, a pair of shawls and a gold chain. The witnesses to this were at first stated to be two, Mahomed Sadik and Hussun; the last was, however, then said not to have been present, but knew of it. No documentary evidence of this was offered: Mahomed Sadik is not forthcoming.

6. The indirect accusation, that all the respectable people of the Political Agent's establishment had taken bribes, was to be proved by 11 papers, taken out of Jubbur Shet's house by two of his relations, for the Nuwab, who, strangers to him, and he a man of bad character, either allowed him to read them, or told him their contents in the open streets. The fact of the papers, and the manner of their being brought, are altogether denied by the Nuwab.

7. It is difficult to conceive the hopes with which these accusations were made. It is possible that money might have been expected as the price of absconding; or perhaps the former accusers at Joonaghur might think reiterated complaints would in time give rise to suspicions, and not being able to come forward themselves, pushed on the petitioner, who being a foreigner, convicted thief, and notorious bad character, unless punished (which would not be anticipated) could not sink below his present position, while in case of any turn in their favour, he might expect substantial proofs of their obligation.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency,
Roykate, 24 August 1844.

Enclosure 1 to Government Letter, No. 99, dated 24 August 1844.

To *A. Malet,* Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Honoured Sir,

I MOST respectfully beg to bring your notice, when I was near the Serving Nuthoo Khan, as servant, one night he gave me 2,000 korees, and informed, give to the Bhugwonlal that I have given him, and in horse stable; and next morning, said person again give me one pair of fine shawls and one gold chain, and told me give the said person that I delivered him out of town door (peoples calling Mujowdee Derwoja); that time the said Bugwanlal was in the Godee. If your honour will inquire, then found more cases; but first call me, I will explain all the circumstances before your honour, afterward to be ask him. We will incessantly pray for your honour's long life and happiness.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Man Khan.*

Camp, Roykote, 7 August 1844.

(True copy.)
(signed) A. Malet, Political Agent.

Enclosure 2 to Government Letter, No. 99, dated 24 August 1844.

TRANSLATION of a Statement of *Man Khan* (son of *Alee Khan*); a Mussulman; a foreigner; native of Benares, late in the employ of *Nuthoo Khan,* in Joonaghur; about 31 years old; made before Captain Aston, at Roykote, on the 13th August 1844.

I DECLINE to make a statement before any Nagur; if there be any Deccan man, I will cause it to be written down by him.

Q. Were you ever at Rajkote before?—*A.* I once came from Joonaghur with Hubeeb Khan.

What was the cause of your apprehension at Rajkote, and your being sent to Joonaghur?—I came with chopras to make a complaint to the Political Agent, and they seized me in the town, and took me to Joonaghur, and put me in prison.

Were you on any other occasion put into prison?—An Arab committed a robbery, and in consequence of this they suspected me of being a bad character, and confined me in the stable.

You have stated that you gave money and shawls, and a chain, to Bhugwanlal, will you state the particulars?—Nuthoo Khan told me to give 2,000 korees to Bugwanlal, and I and Hussun, a horsekeeper, gave it to Bhugwanlal, who was sitting in his garee; and when

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

when Bhugwanlal was going to Rajkote, I went, and at the Mujuwaree gate I gave [the shawls and chain] to Bhugwanlal, in the presence of Muhummud Suduk. The korees I gave about 8 P. M., when Bhugwanlal came to Unopbaee Wala's stable; the shawls and chain I gave the next day to Bhugwanlal at the Mujuwaree gate, when he was on his way to Rajkote. This was three years ago; but the exact time will be ascertained in the chopras.

Were there any witnesses of these two transactions?—Moohummud Sadak, who was a coming from Wudal, and Moohummud Khan, the horse-jockey, were witnesses.

In what were the korees contained?—In two bags.

Can you adduce any documentary proof?—It is entered in the chopra, which is in the possession of the Nuwab, who has also 11 written papers relating to the same business.

How many times have you been turned out of Nuthoo Kahn's service?—When Nuthoo Khan left [was imprisoned], I left his service.

The matters respecting Bhugwanlal having happened three years ago, why did you not before make it known?—Lest Nuthoo Khan should call me to account; and as I am now about to go to my country, therefore I now bring this to the Sahib's notice.

Where were Mr. Blane and Captain Jacob at the time of the transactions in question?—Mr. Blane and Captain Ramsay were at Rajkote; Captain Jacob was at Joonoghur, but he had left two days previous for Rajkote. The things were given afterwards.

How long have you been on this occasion in Rajkote?—About a month.

When did the Nuwab take from you the chopras and the writings?—When Nuthoo Khan's affairs went wrong, then the Nuwab took them.

Do you know of anything else having been given by any other, to any of the Political Agent's establishment?—Yes; but not by my hands. I know, and there is complete proof of it by witnesses and documents.

Will you state particulars?—Eleven papers were taken out of a secret place in the wall of Jubbur Shet's house, and are now in the hands of the Nuwab. The Bhateeas are witnesses of this.

What matters did these papers relate to; and what are the names of the persons implicated?—Every respectable person of the Political Agent's establishment is implicated.

When did the Nuwab get these papers?—The Nuwab received them from the Bhateeas, about two months after Jubbur Shet's house was cannonaded.

What are the Bhateeas' names, and how did you come to know that they had given these papers to the Nuwab?—When the Bhateeas brought the 11 papers from Jubbur's house, then I came with them. They went in to the Nuwab; I waited outside.

Who went into Jubber Shet's house to bring these papers, and did you at that time go into the house?—The two Bateeas went into the house, but no other person; I waited outside.

How did you know that the Bhateeas were conveying these papers; and if they told you, what was the reason of their doing so?—The Bhateeas came out with these papers, and having looked at them, they said before me that the Political Agent's native establishment had received a great deal of money, and the papers showing this had been found. Then I told them to take the papers to the Nuwab. I know the contents of those papers. Dadeebod (the regent) had ordered cash to be taken to Jubbur Shet's, to be given to persons of the Political Agent's establishment.

Did you see the money given to these persons?—No. I have stated this in consequence of being asked whether I know of any such transactions. I myself saw much cash taken from Dodeeboo's; four or five conveying it.

Who witnessed this?—Hussuneeo, Humeer Oonur, and myself.

You were employed all night in conveying the cash; was this the only occasion of thus conveying cash?—Every two or three days, when cash was required, Hammals and others conveyed cash to Jubbur Shet.

Can you name any of these Hammals?—No.

Continuation, taken before *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent, on the same day.

When you gave the things to Bhugwanlal at the Mujuwuree gate, what persons witnessed it?—Moohummud Saduk, a foreigner, and Moohummud Khan, a horse-jockey.

Where is Mohummud Saduk?—At Juilpoor with Ranik Wala.

Where is Moohummud Khan, horse-jockey?—He was at Joonaghur.

How far from the gate were the things given?—One field (about 100 yards).

Were you on horseback, or on foot?—I was on horseback.

Were the others on horseback or on foot?—Moohummud Saduk was on horseback; Moohummud Khan, horse-jockey, was not there; he was in Nuthoo Khan's stables.

Were you on horses or mares?—We were both on horses.

Who had the bundle?—I had it.

Did you open the bundle on giving it, or not?—No; I gave it as it was.

How did you conceal it from the driver (goreewala)?—I gave it in his seeing.

Was any other person near?—Many people were passing on the high road, but there was no other person of the Political Agent's establishment there.

When you gave the money in the stable, was any other person present?—The driver (gareewala) was present, but he may or may not have seen.

Who placed the cash bags in the cart (garee)?—I, first, and afterwards, Hussur.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Where was Bhugwanlal when you put the cash bags in the cart (garee)?—He was sitting in the cart.

In what chopra is this 2,000 korees debited. State this, in order that the book may be sent for?—Four books taken out of the stables are with the Nuwab, sent for them all. The debit is in the handwriting of Duolutraee, a Deccan Brahmin.

You know the name of the writer then, how is it that you do not know the particular book in which it is?—The four books are of the same year.

By whom are the four books written?—Dualutraee and Wullabjee.

Were these books written under your orders?—Yes; they wrote when I caused them to write.

Where are these books?—The Nuwab took them away; I, myself, saw this.

Who of the Nuwab's people took away the books?—Four Arabs took them away; of these Suyud bin Nasir was one: I do not know the names of the others.

In what chopra is the transaction of the shawls entered?—It is not written in any chopra, nor have I any writing of the transaction of the chain.

From whom did you receive these things?—Nuthoo Khan himself gave them to me in the stable.

Have you yourself given anything else to any one of the Political Agent's establishment?—No, nothing else has been given through me, but in the 11 papers it is written.

What kind of papers are these 11?—They are in the handwriting of Jubbursheet [after this answer was recorded, he said] I do not know that they were written by Jubber Shet; I myself saw the papers.

Did you read the papers?—I looked at them; I could read the writing; but I did not look completely through them; I ascertained a little of their contents; I saw these papers in the hands of the Bhateeas, Jubbur Shet's relations; I do not know their names.

Where did you see these papers?—I read them in the road between Jubbur Shet's and Nuwab's.

Were the papers large or small?—Rather small.

What description must be given of these papers in sending for them from the Nuwab?—Let the papers be sent that were taken out of the secret place in the wall of Jubbur Shet's. I do not know the date of their being conveyed to the Nuwab.

At that time, in what employ were you?—I was out of employ, doing nothing.

Did you go with the Bhateeas into the Durbar?—Yes, I went with them; and they went into the Durbar, and I waited outside.

What was the colour of the shawls you saw delivered to Bhugwanlal?—Green, with a gold border. I came hither a month ago to get service, or to go to my country.

Did you mention to any one in Joonaghur that you were coming to Roykote to make a complaint?—No.

What is the object of your informing?—I am about to go into another country, and in order that this business should not trouble me there, I therefore give information of it to the Political Agent before leaving.

Have you obtained service anywhere?—No.

What assurance have I that you will remain here until you shall have proved this statement?—I will remain here; if you do not trust me you can confine me.

Can you give sureties for your attendance?—Yes; I will bring them to-morrow.

(True translation.)

(signed) *Henry Aston,*
Assistant Political Agent.

Memorandum.

On the 14th, Man Khan being called upon to produce security for his attendance, stated that he was unable to do so, for the people of the place would not meddle with the business, and strictly shunned him.

(signed) *Henry Aston,*
Assistant Political Agent.

Enclosure 3, to Government Letter No. 99, dated 24 August 1844.

TRANSLATION of a Letter from the Nuwab of Joonaghur, to *Arthur Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar, dated 17 August 1844.

[A. C., and after reciting the letter from the Political Agent, to which this letter is a reply.]

A COMPLETE answer to your letter will be found in the following paragraphs.

1. You have written that four account books of Nuthoo Khan's were conveyed to me by Syud bin Nasir. But Syud bin Nasir did not convey to me any such books, or separate papers. Whoever may have stated this to you, be assured it is false; and, indeed, whatever things of Nuthoo Khan's were brought from the stable, were brought under the supervision of Hubeeb Khan's people; and the Political Agent, Sheristadar Purtabraee Modooraee moreover, at that time Syud Ubdoolla Hydoos attended on my part, and Syud bin Nasir was

was not even near. Let the karkoon mentioned (Purtabrace), by all means be asked, whether any books were conveyed to me. Besides, no person of mine had any direct communication with the stable, as the Political Agent knows. But I before told you to look closely into any matter in which any one of my people should be accused. In the present matter, whoever has raised this calumny, has done it merely out of enmity to my people. And it is expedient to exact a written band from the person, otherwise no person will hesitate to make groundless attacks on the character of respectable men. As to Man Khan, he formerly committed theft in the stable, and was dismissed therefrom. The whole of this affair is known to the Political Agent; afterwards he robbed in one or two places in the city, and left the place. I have many accusations against Mankhan of thefts in my stable, &c.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

[This sentence underlined is in the handwriting of the Nuwab himself.]

2. It is stated that two Bhateeas, relations of Jubbur Leeladhur had conveyed to me 11 papers taken out of a secret place in the wall of Jubbur Leeladhur's house; but be assured that this is a false statement. No Bhateea relations of Jubbur Leelaghur has conveyed any papers to me, or to my men of business. You have ordered that these Bhateeas be sent to you, but how can they be sent without their being known. If any one had conveyed papers to me, I should not be ignorant who he was. No name or address being given, and nothing to identify, whom can I order to be sent to Rojkote; Jubbur Leeladhur's Wukeels, &c., who were here, are for the most part gone away. You know of those who are in prison, or under restraint.

3. You have sent for Moohummud Saduk. This person is a foreigner, and went away at that time; he is not now in Joonaghur.

4. You have sent for the horse-keeper. This person remained a short time in service here, and afterwards, being dismissed, went to Dhorajee. After that he returned hither, but he has not been seen here of late. After your letter arrived, inquiry was made in the city, but nothing could be learned about him, and it seems that he has gone to his own country.

(True translation.)

(signed) *Henry Aston,*
Assistant Political Agent.

Enclosure 4, to Government Letter No. 99, dated 24 August 1844.

Translation of a Letter from *Rany Wala Grassea,* of Jetpoor, to *Arthur Malet,* Esq., dated 16 August 1844.

A. C.

I have received your letter of the 14th instant, in which you write that Moohummud Saduk, who was formerly in service in Joonaghur, is perhaps now in my service, and that as you have something to ask him, you have sent a horseman with instructions to send the man immediately back with the horseman.

In reply, I beg to state that Mahommed Saduk took his discharge three years ago, and went hence to his country; after that he returned, and lived in Joonaghur, but I know not where he is now. He did not live in my service after he came back.

(True translation.)

(signed) *H. Aston,*
Assistant Political Agent.

Enclosure 5, to Government Letter No. 99, dated 24 August 1844.

Mozdeen Kootubdeen, of Joonaghur, a moonshee and agent of Bura Migan, one of the highest and most respectable of the inhabitants of Joonaghur, is examined on the 14th August 1844, and states:

That Man Khan is a foreigner, who came to Joonaghur about seven or eight years ago, and for some time plied as a labourer, and in service. Afterwards, he was taken into service by Nuthoo Khan, and had charge of his things; and he stole some of them and decamped, but he was apprehended; afterwards he was in Nuthoo Khan's service. Uhmudkhan, a common thief, in robbing his (Uhmudo) father in our street, some of the property was found on Mankhan, and they were both put in irons, and so remained for about a month. Mankhan sold some of the property for 50 korees in Rojkote, and it was recovered by Uhmud's brother, as I have heard. He is not a man of good character, and I have heard that he is a gambler, &c., and I have heard that the stolen property sold by him for 50 korees in Rojkote was recovered from Mooljee Joojuteea, the gambling horse-keeper.

Gorinjee Wuje Shunkur, the Wukeel of the Nuwab, at Rojkote, in a yad of the 14th August 1844, states:

That Mankhan came from his country to Joonaghur in the time of the late Nuwab, and was a fellow gambler with Ubiam Kotwal, and with exalted pretensions cheated everybody out of their money by affecting to make rupees and gold mohurs by magic; afterwards, he committed a robbery, and being found out, he was imprisoned, and I have heard that he was

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

released on paying a fine; after being some time confined, after this, Nuthookhan entertained him as a horseman, and he distributed the pay which came from the Nuwab to the sipahees; and he was entrusted with his horse's silver trappings, which he did not return when demanded. Therefore he was seized and imprisoned, but he escaped, and came to Rojkote, when he was apprehended and sent back. A silver dagger-sheath belonging to Nuthoo Khan was taken from him at the time of his apprehension. A silver anklet of Nuthoo Khan's, which he had deposited with a Banyan in Rojkote, was also recovered, and sent to Joonaghur. This affair occurred about the end of 1841, or beginning of 1842. In Joonaghur he was fined and released. Last year, he and an Arab named Ubdoolla, robbed the shop of a sahookar, named Umurshee Jeewa, in Joonaghur, and was seized by the watchmen, and imprisoned. The Arabs would have shot the Arab, but for the interposition of Hubeed Khan. Mankhan was released on payment of a fine. This affair was reported to the Political Agent at the time. Lately, Mankhan has come to Rojkote, and is now residing in the same house with Ubram Kotwal, the gambler, so I hear. I have stated three occasions of his being imprisoned, but I believe he was imprisoned four times in irons; he is a gambler, and a notoriously bad character.

Gandhee Kubha Ootumchund, late of Kotiana, now of Joonaghur, a Banyan writer, and agent in the employ of Hubeeb Khan, on the 16th August, states:

I know Mankhan; he was in the service of Nuthoo Khan in Joonaghur, and had charge of his clothes and things, and I was employed in the treasury. From that time I know him; he is a wencher, a man of bad character; he may be called a thief; for on Nuthoo Khan's calling on him to give an account of his charge, he would not give it, and he was placed in confinement, but he escaped and came to Rojkote; he was apprehended and brought thence and imprisoned; afterwards, being removed from his former place, he was employed as a sapahee, but committing a robbery in the town, he was not in Nuthoo Khan's service afterwards; this was about two years ago. Hussan, horse-keeper, was one of Nuthoo Khan's horse-keepers; he was not a proper man, but I do not know that he was guilty of any particular offence; he was not however a respectable person. Moohummud Saduk was formerly in the employ of Ranig Wala. Ranig Wala came to see Nuthoo Khan, and seeing that Moohummud Saduk was a good wrestler, he took him into his service. When he came from time to time to the treasury with Nuthoo Khan, I perceived, and I was told, that he was addicted to wenching and intoxication.

I know Ubram Katwal, he is a great gambler; he is a low fellow, and he has swindled various people.

Boolaheeram Kaseeram, of Joonaghur, a wakeel in the employ of Hubeeb Khan, on the 14th August 1844, states:

Mankhan was in the service of Nuthoo Khan, and had charge of his things. Nuthoo Khan required an account of his things from him, and Mankhan would give none, so he was confined, but escaping, he came to Rojkate. He was seized, and sent to Joonaghur, and imprisoned in irons; afterwards, he was released, and was employed as a horseman. He then with an Arab robbed the house of Umurshee Jeewa, a sahookar; and the Arabs would have shot the Arab but for the interposition of Hubeeb Khan, and he was turned out of the city, but Mankhan was imprisoned, and after that he was not employed by Nuthoo Khan. Aslove of Dosee Beebee, widow of the late Nuwab, is kept by Mankhan as a mistress.

Hussan, horse-keeper, was a man of no respectability, a mean fellow; but I know not that he has committed any particular offence.

Moohummud Jaduk was one amongst Nuthoo Khan's athletæ; afterwards he was employed as one of the supporters of Nuthoo Khan's horse canopy. But he indulged much in opium and other intoxicating drugs; and everybody was telling him to give up the vicious habit.

Ubram Kotwal appeared to be a bad character, a wencher; but for the most part I resided at Kotiana, and I cannot speak for certain.

Alo Hoosnen, of Joonaghur, for the last 25 years Wukeel of Mangral, on the 16th August 1844, states:—

Mankhan I know well; he is a thorough gambler, disturber of the peace, and thief. In the time of the late Nuwab he committed a robbery in Joonoghur; and he deposited some of the stolen property in Rojkote, with Mooljee, the gambling horse-keeper, which was recovered. Afterwards he was in the service of Nuthoo Khan, and was accused of theft, and fled to Rojkote, but he was apprehended and sent to Joonaghur for about 12 months.

I have not seen him in Joonaghur.

Hussan, horse-keeper, I do not know anything about.

Moohummud Saduk I do not know, but formerly, in the time of the late Nuwab, there was something against him, and he was put into prison.

Ubram Katwal was Kotwul of Joonaghur, in the time of Jhalo's ministry (more than 15 years ago); he is a gambler; he cohabits with a common prostitute, and goes about with her; he is in the habit of going to Syud Ubdollah (who was concerned in the affairs of sending gold from Joonaghur to Rojkote as a bribe in 1834-35, and lately in the accusation of bribery against the Political Agent's native establishment of Joonaghur).

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Lhunjee Leela, a chobdar on the establishment of the irregular Arab infantry at Rojkote, on the 16th of August, states:—

Ubram Kotwal came to me this morning, and said that last night he had lost 32 korees, and asked me to lend it to him on his note of hand, payable in one month. That he had to go to Joonaghur, having farmed the Kotwalship for five years; and that the day of changing the farms being near, if he went not he would lose the farm. He said he lived in the same house with Ubram Khan in Rojkote, and that Mankhan was a gambler, a bad fellow. Formerly Ubram procured money from my brother, and did not return it for four years. Ubram was formerly, in Mr. Langford's time, a respectable person; he has since lost his character, and cohabited with a common prostitute, and is an accomplice in her trade, so bad a person is he. He said that Mankhan had come here for scandal, and he was a sad rascal; and that lest he should be reckoned as connected with him, he would go away.

(A true translation.)

(signed) *H. Aston*,
Assistant Political Agent.

Rojkote, 23 August 1844.

No. 6039.

Minute by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Crawford* and Honourable Mr. *Reid*.

I do not approve of Mr. Malet's suggestion. It is satisfactory to find that the accusations are groundless; but as no court exists in Kattywar wherein the accuser can be tried for defamation, I do not think he ought to be given up to the Nawab because he made that accusation. This would operate as a check against well-founded complaints.

If his Highness the Nuwab has any claims upon the man, they should be treated of independently, without reference to his having falsely accused the Political Agent's establishment of having received bribes.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
J. H. Crawford.
L. R. Reid.

24 September 1844.

No. 6040.

No. 3115 of 1843.—Political Department.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
to *Arthur Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, with enclosures, dated the 24th of August last, No. 99, reporting the result of an inquiry instituted by you into charges of bribery preferred against your native agent, Bhugwanlall Muddunjee, by an individual named Mankhan, and suggesting, that as the Nawaub of Joonaghur has claims against this person, he may be delivered up to his Highness.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you that the Honourable the Governor in Council does not approve of this suggestion. It is satisfactory to find that these accusations are groundless; but as no court exists in Katteewar in which the accuser can be tried for defamation of character, it will not be expedient to deliver up Mankhan to the Nawaub of Joonaghur in consequence of his having preferred these false charges.

3. The adoption of this measure would operate as a check against well-founded complaints; but if the Nawaub has any claims upon Mankhan, they should be treated of independently, without reference to the false accusation he has preferred against a member of your establishment.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle,
11 October 1844.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 23 April 1845.

Persian Department.

No. 3908.

SUBSTANCE of a Petition from *Mansing Umurjee*, and other Inhabitants of Kattywar, to the Honourable the Governor in Council, dated 19 November, and received 6 December 1844.

THE native agent at Rajcote, the serishtedar of the Assistant Political Agent, and Ununtjee and Umrutlal, who are karbharees at Joonaghur, have since Mr. Malet's arrival openly received bribes, amounting to lacs of rupees; we submitted several Guzerattee petitions on the subject to Mr. Malet, but the native agent did not bring them to his notice, and consequently we received no reply. Mr. Malet does not know Guzerattee, and the native agent alone goes to his bungalow to read petitions. The persons employed in Mr. Malet's office are all Nagur Bramins from Goonagur, and as they are leagued together we can obtain no redress. We therefore pray your Honour in Council to direct the Political Agent to appoint to the office of seristedar a person who does not belong to the Nagur caste. If this be done Government will see that the karbharees in this country receive bribes amounting to lacs of rupees. Maun Khan, sepoy, because he gave in an English petition, was imprisoned. The karbharees wish to raise an unfounded charge of robbery against him, and to have him again imprisoned. We are, therefore, afraid to present an English petition to Mr. Malet. The talookdars have also suffered great loss by giving bribes. We therefore request that the Political Agent may be directed to appoint another serishtedar.

(signed) *W. Escombe*,
Secretary to Government.

No. 751 of 1845.—Political Department.

REFERRED for the immediate and careful report of the Political Agent in Katteewar.

By order of the Honourable the Governor in Council.

Bombay Castle,
10 February 1845.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Chief Secretary.

No. 3909.

Government, No. 31 of 1845.—General, No. 117 of 1845.

Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your order, No. 751, of the 10th instant, directing me immediately and carefully to report on the subject of the petition enclosed in it from Maun Sing and others.

2. The Guzerattee petitions, stated by the petitioner to have been made to me, must in due course have been read, if given in; the petitions as they are received are put into a box, whence they are taken one by one and read, and replied to. The only possibility of their being removed is, that sometimes, when engaged on other business, I direct the native agent to read petitions, and if they are, as many are, mere matters of routine, requiring no special directions, he endorses the usual order on them, reading the petition and endorsement to me on my release from other work.

3. Maun

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

3. Maun Khan's accusation and the inquiry were reported to Government in letter No. 99, dated 24 August last; he was released from confinement as soon as I received from Joonaghur (in reply to my request for particulars of the accusation against him) information that he had been at Joonaghur in employ, subsequent to the commission of the crime charged on him; he has since gone I believe to Bombay.

4. There is, and has been, I believe, from Colonel Barnewall's time, a rule against English petitions, they being generally unintelligible, and natives ignorant of, and consequently not bound by their contents.

5. The employment of Nagurs has ere this been remarked on to Government, and no talookdar has yet complained to me of the loss they have suffered by giving bribes.

6. The reading of the petitions by the native agent is a matter of course, and has always been his duty, which as connected with them could not be so well performed by any one else. They are necessarily read to the Political Agent alone, as it would be manifestly impossible to allow discussion by vakeels on every petition; whenever the questions involved come to that point that admits of it, the parties are called in, and, in discussion with them, the matter is settled.

7. I need not more than notice, that general petitions of this sort must necessarily, for inquiry, be useless. I have intimated this day to the vukeels that a person named Maunsing has made a petition, and have requested information as to who he is, that he may come forward; and I have also issued a "zahirnameh," of which I enclose a translation; but I have no hope that either general charges of bribery will be discontinued, or that it will be impossible to take a bribe, as long as the European establishment of the Agency is kept on a footing entirely inadequate to the business to be done.

8. I return the originals, having kept copies.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency, Rajkote,
20 February 1845.

Enclosure to Government Letter No. 08, dated 20 February 1845.

ZAHIRNAMA.

INFORMATION is given to all, that persons have presented to the Government in Bombay petitions charging, in a general manner, persons in the employ of Government in this province with bribery; in this there is no good end gained, and their characters suffer, and doubts are engendered.

If, however, any one can prove that any servant of Government, or any one in the name of any servant of Government, has taken a bribe, let him come and state the same, with particulars, on which inquiries will be fully made.

(True translation.)

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency, Rajkote,
20 February 1845.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Board. No. 3910.

I DO not see any advantage likely to arise from further prosecuting this matter.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
T. M'Mahon.
J. H. Crawford.
L. R. Reid.

6 April 1845.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 2 May 1845.

Government, No. 56 of 1845.—General, No. 242.

No. 4188. From *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit papers, as per margin, in a case of accusations of extortion against persons of my establishment; the inquiry has embraced the accusations against Bhugwan Lal Mudungee, the native agent on the Political Agent's establishment; those against his brother Urijlal, and Goolabraee Ambashunker, will be afterwards reported on.

1. Petition from Shekh Nooreedeen, dated 2d April 1845.
2. Petition from Survanee Hubeeb Khan, dated 31st March 1845.
3. Statement of Bhugwan Lal.
4. Evidence on Accusation, No. 1, with summary and opinion.
5. Evidence on Accusation, No. 4, with summary and opinion.
6. Evidence on Accusation, No. 8, with summary and opinion.
7. Evidence on Accusation, No. 11, with summary and opinion.

2. The complainants have for some time been in the habit of privately informing me that they had given immense sums in bribes to persons on my establishment, and I have informed them that, on their adducing any proof to substantiate an accusation, I should inquire into it.

3. In the mean time, as they professed excessive fears of the consequences to them, should they come to me and openly bring accusations incapable of proof; and as their frequent visits to me for no other purpose than to inveigh against the corruption of my establishment, only interrupted public business, I told them I would have nothing more to say to them, unless they would make their petitions in the regular channel, stating their means of proof.

4. In order also that, if their accusations were true, they might be put into the right way of establishing them, I requested Lieutenant L. M. Valiant, 1st Lancers, who, from his former appointment at Manickwarra, is acquainted with the people, to learn what they had to say, and to tell them which of their complaints would be most susceptible of proof. This gentleman kindly acceded to my request; and the result is the petitions now forwarded, and a further one from Mudar Sing, jarejah of Trumba, of the Rajcote bhayad.

5. The accusations in these petitions, being the only ones they appeared to have any probability of proving, you may judge of the nature of the support to the numerous other alleged instances of corruption.

6. You will perceive from my remarks on the evidence, and my opinions, that I do not believe one of the instances now adduced. I have seen enough of the accusing parties to know that their motives are their own restoration to power at Joonaghur and Mangrol, which they hope to accomplish by working on the fears of the chiefs, if they are able to show, as the proof of their power, the dismissal through their means of the principals of the Political Agent's native establishment.

7. Hubeeb Khan's character may be known by a reference to the reports on Joonaghur. A good man of business, particularly endeavouring to keep well with the Political Agent, but unscrupulous in matters not likely to fall under his cognizance; and a man secretly leagued with the other minister, to divide whatever profits should be made from the estate, even to the formality of a written agreement.

8. Nooroodeen, lately the minister at Mangrol, was enabled to retain power there from the expectation of the Political Agent that his close connexion with Hubeeb Khan would ensure harmony between the Durbars, and be the means of carrying out the arrangements made with so much trouble by Captain Jacob. His character can be gathered from his complaint and evidence; if the complaint be true, he endeavours to maintain himself in power by bribery, he deceives his master and his friend, and states that people give evidence according o their interests.

9. The evidence are, for the most part, the very people that would be brought forward whether the case were true or false, persons in the confidential employ of the complainants. Kuba Gandee was one of the witnesses against Chotum Lal before

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

before Mr. Erskine, and in his favour before me on the trial; but it is proper to state that he has not varied in his assertion, that the evidence entered as his before the former gentleman, was made up by another person.

10. It may be proper to state, that many persons have lately been asserting to me that bribes are extensively given; but in every instance the informer has either been connected with the party of the present petitioners, or has hopes from the downfall of the present ministry at Joonaghur; proof was not forthcoming.

11. It is not impossible that, from my intimate acquaintance with the differen parties, my opinion may have a bias; the careful perusal of the evidence by Government will, however, counteract this, if it exists.

12. Notwithstanding my opinion of the innocence of Bhugwan Lal, I have placed him under suspension until the pleasure of the Honourable the Governor in Council is communicated to me. I have been induced to do this, from the assurances which, however I may distrust them, I cannot entirely disregard, that numerous complaints susceptible of proof will be brought forward as soon as this measure is adopted.

13. May I beg the favour of a speedy reply to this report; my establishment and business is such, that the absence of any individual is felt, and the inconvenience more especially. as there is not a carkoon in it in any way qualified to take his place.

14. Should Government be of my opinion with regard to his innocence, and direct him to be restored to his duty, my acting on such an order will, of course, be contingent on no other well-grounded complaint having been in the meantime brought forward, or on his not being implicated in any that may be proved against others.

15. In obtaining the depositions, I have, to prevent fear or bias, taken them in the first instance in private; the cross-examinations have been conducted either by, or in the presence of the party against whom the witness appeared, the previous examination having been first read to him.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency, Rajkote,
12 April 1845.

Enclosure No. 1, to Government Letter, No. 56 of 1845.

PETITION from *Sheik Nooroodeen,* dated 2 April 1845.

I REPRESENT that my ministry at Mangrol has, by advice from Joonaghur, been dismissed. This is well; but concerning whatever the Durbar has received from me, the accounts of this and other things, the Durbar has petitioned the Sirkar. I also petitioned, and on it I was directed to look to Joonaghur. At this time also Anuntjee, the Joonaghur karbaree, came here, and I daily took to him my people and accounts, but he has not cleared them up. He clearly appears to be altogether on one side, because, up to this day, whatever has been given to the Sirkar's karbarees will not be allowed to me. I am only a householder; how can I pay them from such means? Whatever karbaree gives anything to this establishment, his Durbar is answerable for; his own means are not answerable for it. Therefore, being without remedy, I below inform you whatever expense of this nature I have incurred, you will allow it to me from the Durbar.

1. Sumvut 1896. Two bullocks to Bhugwan Lal; their colour is red.

2. To Goolabraee, at Joreea, a gold chain of the mulberry pattern; I got it through Ladha Sunguree from a sahookar at Joorea; about the value of 1,000 korees. At the time of giving it, the Shungwee aforesaid was present.

3. At that place 1,000 korees ready money, Nuggur Shaee, were given to Goolabraee; in giving them Ahmed Khan, bargeer of the Durbar, was concerned.

After this, in the same year, in Rajkote, 1,500 korees ready cash, in two bags, were given to Goolabraee; at that time the same bargeer, Ahmed Khan, carried them with me, and was present at their being given.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

4. 2. 1897. In Porbunder, when Mr. Blane and Captain Jacob were there, I went there; a chundunhar (gold necklace for women) of gold of 49 gudeeanas and 7 vals, and a piece of gold of 18 gudeeanas, were given to Bhugwanlal and Goolabraee, in Bawa Mohujhun's mut; at the time Ata Hoosen was present.

5. 3. 1899. Goolabraee went to Dwarka and returned by Mangrol; 22 mugrubees of of 12 gudeeanas, at the rate of 32½ korees each. Mehtas Ruseeddas and Jugunath brought them from Champsee Nanjee's shop.

6. A doro (chain of gold wire) of 12 gudeeanas of gold; taken from the sahookar by me and those two persons.

7. Besides this, clothes were given; if you want the particulars they can be given.

8. 4. 1900. When Surwanee Hubeeb Khan's ministry was changed, the above Surwanee had in my possession three gold articles, as follows: a heera sanklee (chain of diamond pattern), a chundunhar, a kuntho (a tight necklace) with jewels set in the centre ornament. The sunklee and chundunhar were given to Bhugwan Lal; Mahdooraee Ambashunkur took them from me to give to Bhugwan Lal, in Meer Isak's huwelee. They were with Ata Hoosen, in his saddle-bags; I had them taken out of them, and gave them to him. The next day, Mahdooraee got me and Bhugwan Lal together, at his (Bhugwan Lal's) house, and he (Bhugwan Lal) said the "things were given to me."

9. After this, in the month Falgoon, a kuntho of gold I gave to Goolabraee; at the time of giving it, Mehta Jugurnath and Ata Hoosen were present. After giving it, I got ready to go to Mangrol, when Goolabraee said, "In a few days my man, Mahdooraee Waeeshnoo, will visit you; let him take what wood he wants for my house, and do you give him the money for it." After I had gone, the aforesaid Waeeshnoo came to Mongrol and bought the wood. I got the money from the bankers through Mehta Ruseeddas, as follows:

From Desaee Waljee Wundramun - - - - - - -		800
„ Dosee Purmanund Damanathee - - - - - -		255
Hire of carts to Joonaghur from Dosee Moolook Wanya - -	34	
„ „ Dosee Purmanund Damanathee	5	
„ „ Murg Nuthoo Dosa by Kureembhye	47	
		86

Concerning the above-mentioned three articles of Surwanee Hubeebkhan a dispute arose between me and him relative to their price; and we after this met in Rajkote, and, taking the particulars, I and Hubeeb Khan's vakeel, Gandee Kuba, went to Goolabree, who said Hubeeb Khan has written too large value, it was not such as is written for. I have not broken up the kuntho, it is now whole with me; and for the other two articles, the heera sauklee, &c, I will send Mahdooraee to ask Bhugwan Lal. Thus he told us, and at that time Ato Hoosen Jugunath and Gandee Kuba were with me. This is the circumstance attending Hubeeb Khan's three articles.

10. Another time, in Wyshak, Goolabraee's son was betrothed, and Ato Hoosen and Juganath were in Joonaghur, and Goolabree told them, "Send a man to Mooroodeen, to send sooparee, &c., here quickly in three days." I sent two moondas of rice from Sha Wumjee Moteechund, 25 korees two moondas, sooparee; one moonda of this was from Parik Kurumchund Govindjee, and one from Govindjee Jewunt. The money for them was given by Champree Manjee to Dosee Amooluk; Wasunjee, 65 korees sepahee; Kumal Sheknunee, the hire of carts, 10 korees. I have much anxiety in making known the above information, because I am a Wuttundar; and these persons in every place being at enmity with me, can cause me annoyance; but in the good and just government of the Sirkar I hope that proper inquiry will be made, and I shall be protected, and that other people will be saved from extortion. Besides the above, many other cases, when alone I and the receivers were present, are not written for this reason.

11. And an ootura (a gold wire chain) was with Parik Warjpal, which was taken and given at that time; Akoobkhan Pathan was present, but he sat outside the door. But he knows the occurrence, and that I took the ooturee to Bhujwan Lal's residence, to give him.

1901, Talgoon Wud 10th, Wednesday.

(True translation.)

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Enclosure No. 2, to Government Letter, No. 56 of 1845.

Surwanee Hubeeb Khan's Petition, 31 March 1845.

I REPRESENT that the Nuwab was pursuing me for the accounts, when you informed me that if I settled privately with him (Ghurmel) it would be better for me. On this I, being without remedy, endeavoured to arrange it in that way; and Anundjee and Goolabraee told me to count on their services, that they would arrange it in that way. On this it was settled that I should give 2,000 rupees to Bhugwan Lal and Goolabraee; I agreed to this in presence

presence of Shekh Mooroodeen, and when all should be arranged he was to give the money; thus it was determined all that was arranged to be paid to the Nuwab I was to satisfy him for, and he was to give me a release. When Captain Aston was at Joonaghur, he gave an order for permission for me to leave, when I was told to pay the 2,000 rupees and go. I replied, "I will, instead of the rupees, give three ornaments of gold, which are with Shekh Nooroodeen, and on this he detained me. I wrote to Shekhjee, but he was unable to come, when Anuntjee, bringing up against me something about money, detained me, and I being without remedy stayed, and with Nooroodeen's people, Mehta Jugurnath and Syud Ata Hoosen. I inquired after the three ornaments which I had given to Sheikjee, when they told me these three ornaments are given between the two Rajahshree. After this, I once or twice spoke to Shekhjee about it, and told him either to come to Joonaghur or Rajkote and arrange my affairs. After this he came to Rajkote, and I said to Anuntjee, "Give me also leave to go there;" when Mahdooraee told me, "Give something to Anuntjee, and you will get leave." On this 3,000 korees was settled to be given; when 1,000 korees cash I took from Thukur Soha Vela and gave him, and for the 2,000 korees a writing was made, and I received leave to go to Rajkote. On arrival here I got ill. I asked Goolabraee if he had received the necklace; he replied that "they were not given in your name; if you have given any, confront me with Shekhjee." I then asked Shekhjee if he had given them; he replied that "I gave them in my name to the two Rajahsrees, and did not give them on your part," but if I would write the price he would give it to me. I then gave him the price, and to that Chittee Shekjee and Gundo Kabbo and Shekhjees Wakeel went with me, and I asked Kubba how he had done it. He said he had gone to Goolabraee and shown the chittee, when he said that the price was entered too high, that they were not of that value. Saying this, he kept the chittee. After this I became very ill, and Shekhjee took me to his lodging, when I reflected that unless I gave something my affairs would not be settled, and I asked advice of Gandee Kubba; besides the money could not be obtained from Shekhjee. The Kubba told me that unless I paid, my business would not be done. I said I could not get out, but that he should call him to me, and I would then persuade him. After this, on Sunday in Pash, I saw Bhugwan Lal and Goolabraee, who came to see me at Shekhjee's lodgings; they sat two ghurrees, and at rising I said to them, "I have something to say to you," when Goolabraee came with me into the house, and Shekhjee and Bhugwan Lal stayed outside the house door. I said to Goolabraee, "Shekhjee has now no money, but I must give you something; but I have at present no money, but two gold ornaments about 1,000 rupees worth, which I would give him," and a pair of kurrass, &c., sanklee of gold, I took out and gave him. "The pair of kurras you will give to Bhugwan Lal, and the chain is for yourself." He said, "This is well; call Kubba and give them, that he will take them and come with me." Jemadar Nuthoo is witness of this, because these ornaments were in his saddle-bags, and he took them out and gave them; and when I gave them he could see. Thus as it happened I tell you.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

1901, Falgoonwud 8th, Monday.

(True translation.)

(signed) *A Malet*, Political Agent.

Enclosure No. 3, to Government Letter, No. 56 of 1845.

Bhugwan Lal's Statement, dated 12 April 1845.

My petition is, that many sorts of business come before the Sirkar, and are decided by the gentlemen in authority; but some people, not considering this, entertain enmity against those who are employed, and are now ready to vent their hatred on all, and have conspired together to make up this complaint without any reason, to injure people of good character, to give trouble to Government, and impede the course of business. But from the Sirkar's inquiry, intrigues cannot be carried on; and no punishment being inflicted on these people, they have again brought up another business, that persons in service are in two ways injured. They have to defend themselves from intrigues, or to lose both service and character; and if they endeavour to do this, they cannot, with a clear heart, serve the Sirkar, and will be blamed; but these people, having no other means of cheating, take things from the talookdars on false pretences, and thus enter them in the accounts; and when the talookdar calls them to account, for their own safety or for enmity to others, they bring up their own servants and slight men to establish their assertion, and injure the Sirkar's servants. They first gave anonymous petitions to engender doubt, then Man Khan was put forward to make an accusation. He not having received any punishment, Hubeeb Khan Nooroodeen, Ladha Shungwee (a servant of Bulwuntraee's), and one or two vakeels, and some others have for a long time been considering how to bring up this affair, but this has been inquired into by the Sirkar, and it appears that, except their enmity, there is no reason for all this. It seems from Nooroodeen's conversation, that he will bring up something else, and people are confederated with him. I cannot, however, state who they are, because if they are my enemies without reason, their hatred would increase if I were to mention their names. My

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

petition is, that any persons who bring forward false accusations should be treated according to the justice of Government, so that one may serve Government with a fearless heart. If on any reason, Government does not so treat them, they will be continually complaining, and sometime suspicion will take root in the Sirkar's mind, and I cannot hope to escape the loss of the service I have hitherto performed, and the good character I have obtained. There is no other but the Sahib to whom I can unburden my heart, and petition: this is my representation.

(True translation.)

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Enclosure No. 4, to Government Letter, No. 56 of 1845.

Remarks on the Evidence on an Accusation of Extortion against *Bhugwan Lal Murdunjee*, Native Agent on the Political Agent's Establishment in Katteewar, marked I.

This is an accusation by Shekh Noorooden, late Karbaree of Mangral, against Bhugwan Lal, for extortion in receiving from him, in the year 1896 (A.D. 1839-40), two bullocks, the property of the Mangrol Durbar.

Nooroodeen deposes, on solemn affirmation, to the demand for the bullocks by Goolabraee for Bhugwan Lal; to his own reluctant consent to give them; to a man coming from Bhugwan Lal for them, and to their delivery, and denies that any payment was ever made for them, and states that he kept no private accounts.

Ata Hoosen, in Nooroodeen's service, deposes, on solemn affirmation, to the demand for the bullocks by Goolabraee for Bhugwan Lal, and their delivery to the latter by himself and a gareewan.

Nehalchund, in the service of the Mangrol Durbar, believes there were no private accounts.

Bhugwan Lal admits the receipt of the bullocks, but asserts the regular purchase of them, and shows an entry in his private account book of a payment of 250 rupees to Nooroodeen for them.

There is no difference between this entry and many others previous and subsequent; and I see no reason for thinking that it was not made at the time; the payment is asserted to have been made to a sipahee of Nooroodeen's, name unknown, that he took the money for examination in the bazar, in company with a man since dead.

It is apparent, that if this is an honest transaction, and no acknowledgment were received for the money, which is not by any means improbable, no other proof to rebut the accusation could be forthcoming than that produced, and the fact of no accounts being kept by Nooroodeen, prevents any doubt being thrown on Bhugwan Lal's entry by him, which Goolabraee, being an accused party, cannot give evidence on the subject. On the other hand, were the accusation true, no more proof would probably be forthcoming.

Looking, therefore, to the motives of the accuser, I am of opinion that this case is not judicially proved.

8 April 1845. (signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Accusation I.

Shekh Nooroodeen is called.

Q. You state, that in 1896 you gave to Bhugwan Lal two bullocks; state the circumstances of this transaction, and whether it was a gift or otherwise?—*A.* In 1896, in Rajkote, Goolabraee told me to give to Bhugwan Lal the pair of bullocks which I had; I refused, saying that the Durbar had given them to me, but he persuaded me, and I gave them. The Durbar had bought them from a bunneed, and I believe gave 350 or 400 korees for them; I never received any payment for them, either from Bhugwanlal or Goolabraee, nor did any one else. The man who took them to him may have received a small present, as is usual, but I do not know it. A Kombee, Bhugwan Lal's gareewan, I believe, came to me for them, and they were given to him, and Ata Hoosen went with them.

Cross-examined, both parties being present.

Have you got accounts of your receipts and disbursements for 1896?—No, I have not; I did not keep accounts of that sort at that time; I have accounts of what I spent and received for the last 10 years at Mangrol, but this will not be in them, but in the Durbar's accounts.

You state that some of the presents you made, for which no return was received, formed a subject of complaint against you by the Durbar; was this one of the complaints?—No; and I gave away horses also, which were not made subjects of complaint.

Have you no accounts of the time in which your own private transactions are entered?—No; I had no occasion to keep private accounts, as my expenses were paid by the Durbar.

Do not you know that your gorewar received a present?—No, I do not know; but he may have done so, as it is customary.

Do

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Do you now keep accounts of your private money affairs at Rajkote?—Yes, I now do so; I began to do so in 1898; my private and the Durbar accounts were both entered in the same book by Nebalchand, my private Mehta; previous to that, having no private transactions here, I did not keep any.

Why did you begin to keep accounts of this sort in 1898, which were not before necessary?—I was before a sort of private Durbar servant, but from that time, Captain Jacob having got me appointed karbaree, I kept these accounts, but they were not necessary before this.

Given on solemn affirmation before me, this 8th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

Syud Ata Hoosen.

Q. Nooroodeen has represented that he gave, in 1896, to Bhugwan Lal two bullocks, do you know anything of this?—*A.* Goolabraee came and told Nooroodeen that Bhugwan Lal wants your two bullocks. Nooroodeen said, I will ask the Durbar, and give them. Goolabraee said, if you ask the Durbar such a trifle, how will you manage in matters of importance? On this, the next day Shekhjee sent the bullocks to Bhugwan Lal; I took them, and Nooroodeen's goreewan was with them; no other person was with us; we gave them. A man of Bhugwan Lal had been there, but I do not remember that he was with us; I was close by when Goolabraee came and asked for the bullocks, and heard the conversation.

Cross-examination in presence of accused.

In 1896, who kept Nooroodeen's private accounts at Rajkote?—(*After a long hesitation.*) I have seen two men with him keeping his accounts; at one time Deoochund, who has been dismissed about 3 ½ years, he came here once with Nooroodeen; I do not know what accounts he kept; and another time Nehalchund came with him, he will have got pay from the Durbar; Ruseedas was with Nooroodeen in 1895, but I don't know whether he kept any accounts. Nehalchund was with him, but I don't know the exact time; Deoochund was with him before that on the same account, I suppose.

By *Bhugwan Lal.*] Where did you serve in 1895?—I was in service with the younger Bhye in Wudwan; when she left this to go there, I was discharged, and retained by Shekh Nooroodeen, I cannot remember the exact date.

The first question on the cross-examination was given with much hesitation and alterations.

Taken on solemn affirmation before me, this 8th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

Nehalchund is called and warned, and on solemn affirmation states:

I came here with Nooroodeen in 1900; my business was to keep the Moodeekhana accounts, and write letters to the Durbar. I entered every sort of expenses in the Modeekhana, but not his private accounts.

Who wrote his private accounts?—There were no other than the Modeekhana accounts; at any rate I know nothing of them.

Taken on solemn affirmation before me, the 8th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

Bhugwan Lal states: I wanted bullocks in 1896, and inquired for them. Goolabraee told me that Nooroodeen had a young pair that would suit, as I wanted Venakanta instead of Kakrej bullocks, as better suited to the country; I told him to look out for a pair like them for me. He went and spoke to Nooroodeen about them, who sent them to me with his man, whose name I don't remember, but I do not think Ata Hoosen was with them; I gave the man 10 korees, and sent him away, putting them under the care of my own man, who had not been to Nooroodeen's. I had myself seen the bullocks in Nooroodeen's garee. Nooroodeen said, that he had given 300 korees to a cultivator for them, but Goolabraee agreed for 250 korees, which I paid a few days after they were made over to me. On Falgoonwud 8th (refers to his account book of expense of the Rajkote house), 250 korees to Nooroodeen, 10 korees to the bringer of the bullocks, and 10 korees to the servant who was to take care of them; I do not remember if I got a receipt, but very likely I did not, as I could not anticipate a complaint against me for such a transaction. The money was paid to a sepahee of Nooroodeen, with whom I sent Guneshjee, who was a Mohsulee sepahee with me, to the bazar to try the money. Guneshjee died in the rains of 1896. Leaf 17.

(signed by) *Bhugwanlal.*

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Nooroodeen examined at his own house by the Political Agent's Sheristadar, Purtabraee, he being confined by sickness.

Q. Bhugwanlal's chopra is shown to you, in which payment for the bullocks is entered?—*A.* I am not satisfied with his chopra, it appears forged.

On what grounds do you object?—The man who Bhugwan Lal said took the money is dead; he does not mention any one now alive; at that time he had an account with Weljee Mooljee, and he says this large item was paid in ready money, and it was not paid by a draft on the banker; these are my reasons, and he does not give the name of any man who received the money. I have a pain in my ear, so that on this head I am not able to state all I wish, but I will write a representation of it; if the money was paid, where is my receipt? How is it that he could take anything from a servant of a talookdar, and not give a receipt?

(signed) *Nooroodeen.*

(True translation.)

(signed) A. Malet, Political Agent.

Enclosure No. 5, to Government Letter, No. 56 of 1845.

Remarks on the Evidence on an Accusation of Extortion against Bhugwan Lal Mudunjee, marked IV.

This is an accusation by Shekh Nooroodeen, late karbaree at Mangrol, against Bhugwan Lal Mudunjee, native agent on the Katteewar Political Agent's establishment, for extortion, in receiving at Porbunder in St. 1897 (A. D. 1840–41), a chundur har (gold chain), and a piece of gold bullion, or a share of them.

Nooroodeen deposes, on solemn affirmation, to the purchase of the articles at Mangrol, and their being taken by Ata Hoosen with him to Bhugwan Lal's lodging at Porbunder, and to their delivery there in an inner room to those two with his own hands; he states the motive to have been to obtain favour in business then transacting with Mangrol.

Ata Hoosen deposes, on solemn affirmation, to the carrying of the articles to Bhugwan Lal's and Goolabraee's lodging by himself in company with Nooroodeen, and their delivery by him to Bhugwan Lal and Goolabraee in an outer room.

Bhugwan Lal denies this transaction altogether, avers that all the karkoons on the Political Agent's establishment at Porbunder, and many other persons, lived in the same place, so that it was improbable that he and Goolabraee should at any time have been alone; produces a list of property stolen from him and Goolabraee shortly after at Bunttee, in which neither of the articles is mentioned; he also shows by Nooroodeen's cross-examination, that the order for the sequestration of Mangrol was only suspended for a short time.

The evidence of the accuser and his witness is at variance as to the room in which the things were given. There is no doubt that many persons were living, as Bhugwan Lal states, in the small lodging. He lost the whole of the property he had with him in a few days after the averred bribe, and in the list of the property stolen, the articles are not entered.

It is obvious that in a case of this sort, there can be no direct evidence to rebut the accusation; as much as may be supposed possible is adduced, and there is a variation in the statements of the accuser and witness. I am therefore of opinion that this case is not judicially proved.

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

Accusation IV.

Shekh Nooroodeen.

In your petition you state, that in 1897, in Porebunder, when Mr. Blane and Captain Jacob were there, you gave a chundunhar of 49 gudeeanas and 7 vols, and a piece of gold (dhal) of 15 gudeeanas to Bhugwanlal and Goolabraee in Bawa Mohungur's munt, and that Ata Hoosen was present; state on your solemn affirmation, of equal force with an oath, the particulars of this.

From my lodging I went with Ata Hoosen to Bhugwanlal's lodging, where Goolabraee also stayed; it was in Bawa Mohungur's huwelee; early in the morning after sunrise we went to the right; after entering the gate they both were in a room together on the ground floor, the door opened from the verandah; the room was about 16 feet square. I saw no other opening in it than the door. We both went in and sat opposite them, the two presents were carried by Ata Hoosen. I took them from him in the room and said, I have brought these things for you. Bhugwanlal said to Goolabraee, take them, which he did. I only sat there six or seven minutes; we rose and came away. We four only were in the room. There was no one in the veranda at the time; this was the only time I went there. I got the chundurhar at Mangrol from Heerjee Deooraja Sahookar; then I sent a man there, named Progjee

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Progjee Sungwee, then in the service of the Durbar, now in Bombay, and got it on the Durbar's account: no receipt was given for it: it will have been written in the banker's account with the Durbar, or more probably in the account with Pragjee, and Pragjee will have entered it in his books as given to me. It formed a part of a complaint by the Durbar against me to Captain Jacob, that I had taken this article on the Durbar's account. A few days after this complaint, the Durbar was reconciled to me, and gave me a farkuttee, on which account Captain Jacob did not inquire into the complaints. Mr. Blane had sent for me, and was imposing a sequestration on Mangrol, and I got this the day I left for Porebunder. I took it there myself; I did not tell Progjee what it was for. As soon as I got to Porebunder, I gave it to Ato Hoosen myself, and I think two days after this we went and gave it. The two gentlemen were on the point of leaving for Joonaghur, and Bhugwanlal and Goolabraee were going with them. It was wrapped up in cloth, which was opened when it was given. It was the Chukuree pattern of two bars of gold entirely. On leaving the munt, we went straight back to our lodging; I did not see any other of the karkoons at their place. Heerjee Deooraj's shop is still at Mangrol; his books, &c., will be there; but the complaint of the Durbar against me for taking it will be found in the petition against me, on the Political Agent's records.

I got the dhal from Pragjee and Damodhur the same day; I do not know where they got it; it will be entered in the accounts of one of them to the Durbar; this also was a part of the complaint against me. When the Durbar was on good terms with me, I was told that the Mootsuddees, Pragjee, &c., had written the complaints, and that the Durbar knew nothing about them. I do not know where Damodhur now is; he was dismissed from Mangrol on Captain Jacob's order.

Cross-examined by Bhugwanlal.

Q. When did you first become acquainted with me?—*A.* In 1893, when Babajee Buchajee came to Porebunder, I was with him, and you were with Captain Lang; from that time I have been acquainted with you, but our acquaintance then was slight.

When did our acquaintance become intimate?—In 1896, or rather the end of 1895.

On what account was it?—I came to Rajkote on Mangrol affairs. The Durbar and Babojee Buchajee had quarrelled, and Shekh Wallee's business was going on.

Where did we meet, and what was our conversation?—At your house, where there is a bamboo trellice, where it is customary for people to sit; our conversation turned on matters of business, such as people speak of, such as was going on at the time with the Sirkar.

The conversation you secretly held with me, what was its nature, and on what affairs?—I have no notes that I can say what conversation took place at any particular time; as the occasion, so was the speech.

In what month was your business done, and what Sahib carried it on?—I do not remember the month; at one time, Captain Aston was carrying it on, then Captain Jacob, and then Mr. Blane.

In 1895, all the Mohsuls that were on Mangrol and Babajee Buchajee's business, were they arranged by Captain Jacob or Mr. Blane?—Captain Jacob, at Balacheree, removed some of the Mohsuls; at that time Mr. Blane had not come; Babajee's business was completed by Mr. Blane.

When we returned from Balacheree, how many times did we meet?—I cannot remember.

You say that you gave Goolabraee and Mea Chundunhar and Dhalia in 1897; on what account was this, and what shares were we to divide it in?—There were many orders in Mangrol in favor of Joonaghur for nuzurana and other things, it was for that reason the shares were not spoken of.

After this time, were these orders relaxed, or kept on?—An order for sequestration had been issued, but it was determined that it should lie over until the Sahib had gone to Joonaghur.

When you gave these things, how far did Ata Hoosen come with you?—He came into the house, into the inner room; there is but one room inside the oosree (veranda).

Taken on solemn affirmation before me, on the 8th and 9th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Syud Ata Hoosen, on solemn affirmation.

Shekh Noorooden states, that you were with him when he gave certain presents to Bhugwanlal and Goolabraee, at Porebunder; state what you know.

Shekhjee came from Mangrol to Porebunder, and gave to me a chundunhar, and a piece of gold; next day, Shekjee and I in the morning went to Bhugwanlal's and Goolabraee's lodging, at a Bawas Mookam Mohungur, it is called. I had the articles in a roomal; we turned to the right and came to the osree, they were sitting at the corner of the osree; it is open, so that people can see in on going into the osree, before Bhugwanlal and Goolabraee could see, Noorooden took from me the cloth in which the articles were; we went in and sat down; I, at a little distance, Mooroodeen close to them; he gave them to Goolabraee whom Bhugwanlal told to keep them. When Nooroodeen took the articles from me, he returned the roomal; the things were not wrapped up in any other cloth. We returned straight to our lodging; I do not know the name of the pattern of the chundunhar, I only saw it for a short time.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Cross-examined by Bhugwan Lal.

Q. How many lines was the chundunhar of?—*A.* I did not examine it, and do not know.

Is this customary to put up things without examining them?—I was in confidential employ, why should I examine it.

When you took it out of the roomal to give it to Shekhjee, did you see it?—Yes, it was in a heap in my hand; I did not see it opened.

What were Goolabraee and I about at that time?—You were sitting.

Did we get up to go elsewhere?—I did not see any more.

Taken on solemn affirmation before me, on the 8th and 9th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

8th April 1845.

Bhugwanlal states:—I know nothing whatever of this; I was at Porebunder with Mr. Blane, from November to January, about the 20th or 22d; I was not alone in a lodging; in it were Girdhurlal, Goolabraee, Purtabraee, and all the people; Oomedwars, who were in attendance, were there also. Shekhjee might, and probably did come, and if he did so, of course visits will have been made, but as to presents of any sort, I entirely deny it; we all lived in the Bawa Mohungars munt; all of us left together, and I do not remember ever being alone with Goolabraee in the way described; the time mentioned also, is that at which I am always engaged in the customary religious ceremonies, and it could not have therefore happened at that time.

9th April 1845.

When we left Porebunder I did not go to my home, and at Buntlee I was robbed of everything I had with me in a box, the only one with me, and gave in a list of the stolen articles.

Goolabraee's things were also stolen in the same box (he had no other), and his property also was specified.

Given before me, 8th and 9th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

The original list of property lost by Bhugwanlal and Goolabraee at Buntlee, is produced; the articles stated in Nooroodeen's complaint are not entered in it.

Posh wud 2d (9 January 1841).

The original complaint of the Mangrol Durbar against Nooroodeen is produced, in which is entered a chundunhar of 49 gudeenas and 7 rals, at 30 korees each; 1843, two given on Pash wud 2d., to be paid to Pragjee Nagjee (9th January 1841.)

15th. Gudeeanas of gold, value 458½ korees, bought from Dosee Purmanund Dama.

(signed) *A. Malet.*

Enclosure No. 6, to Government Letter, No. 56 of 1845.

Remarks on Evidence on an Accusation of Extortion against Bhugwan Lal Mudunjee, marked VIII.

This is an accusation by Shekh Nooroodeen, late Karbaree of Mangrol, against Bhugwan Lal Mudunjee, native agent on the establisment of the Political Agent in Katteewar, for extortion in receiving at Joonaghur in St. 1900 (A.D. 1843–44) one heera sanklee, one chundur hur, and one kuntha.

Nooroodeen on solemn affirmation deposes to receiving the articles from Hubeeb Khan; to his giving them at Meer Isak's Huwelee to Mahdooraee in the presence of Ata Hoosen, to his agreeing to give them to Bhugwan Lal, to his going next day about seven or eight o'clock to Bhugwan Lal's house, and their meeting Mahdooraee with Bhugwan Lal, who acknowledged having received them; to a dispute afterwards with Hubeeb Khan as to their value, and the means taken to settle it; to his having given the things on his own account, instead of on Hubeeb Khan's account, to Goolabraee and Bhugwan Lal; that Hubeeb Khan's servant came for him, and he went and met Hubeeb Khan close to Bhugwan Lall's house; that they went in, and sat in Briglal's house half an hour before they saw Bhugwan Lal, and a quarter of an hour with him; that they settled to give him 2,000 rupees; that he does not recollect any other persons there at the time but Mahdooraee; that he did not know if any one else was to receive a share; that he and Hubeeb Khan separated at the door of the house on going away; that he cannot prove, except through Ata Hoosen, that Mahdooraee came to his lodging at Meer Jak's Huwellee; that Ata Hoosen is his only witness to meeting Mahdooraee at Bhugwan Lal's, that he went to Bhugwan Lal's secretly; that he cannot prove Mahdooraee's having gone with him to Bhugwan Lal's house; that he remembers no person with him on these occasions but Ata Hoosen.

Ata

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Ata Hoosen deposes to receiving the articles from Shekh Nooroodeen, to his giving them to Mahdooraee, who, in Meer Isak's huwelee, promised to give them to Bhugwan Lal; to his going next morning with Shekjee to Bhugwan Lal's house; to his seeing Mahdooraee there; to the dispute at Rajkote between Hubeeb Khan and Shekh Nooroodeen relative to the value of the articles, and the means taken to clear it up.

Surwanee Hubeeb Khan deposes to sending three articles of jewellery to Shekh Nooroodeen, who engaged on their security to pay 2,000 rupees to Bhugwan Lal and Goolabraee; to having gone to Nooroodeen's house, called him, going together to Goolabraee's house, thence to Vrijlal's, to sitting there one or two minutes; to Bhugwan Lal coming in, and going with them into the veranda, when they in three or four minutes agreed about the 2,000 rupees, and left, and that he and Nooroodeen kept company homewards to where their roads separated; that a dispute arose in consequence of Nooroodeen not having paid the 2,000 rupees, but having given the things away on his own account, and the means taken to settle the price, which however was not settled.

Mehta Jugganath Mooljee deposes to the dispute about the value of the articles, and then going to Goolabraee's house to settle it.

Gandee Kuba Ootumchund deposes to having written the memorandum of the articles; to going with Nooroodeen, &c., to Goolabraee's house to settle it.

Mahdooraee Ambashunker (Goolabraee's brother) deposes, that during the Political Agent's stay at Joonaghur, he never went to Meer Isak's huwelle, that he never met Nooroodeen at Bhugwan Lal's house, that he never received a memorandum of the prices of any articles given to him.

Bhugwan Lal denies the whole.

There are many inconsistencies and very serious discrepancies and contradictions in the evidence for the prosecution.

Hubeeb Khan deposits with Nooroodeen three valuable articles, on the faith of which he agrees to give, as he says, 2,000 rupees to Bhugwan Lal, or as the former says, to both Goolabraee and Bhugwan Lal. Nooroodeen does not give the money, but (with some uncertainty, by Hubeeb Khan's statement) gave the articles on his own account. There are discrepancies and contradictions of a very serious nature, as to the going together to Bhugwan Lal's house, and their stay there. It is very suspicious that Ata Hoosen and Nooroodeen alone, out of a considerable household, can speak to any of the circumstances at Joonaghur connected with Mahdarao's visits, and it is also singular that neither Hubeeb Khan nor Nooroodeen can recollect any person at Vrijlal's house, though it being the moment of Bhugwan Lal's departure, it is probable that numerous friends and men of rank had assembled there; I do not credit this accusation.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Accusation VIII.

Nooroodeen.

1 Heera Sanklee.
1 Chundun Har.
1 Kuntha.

You state in your petition, that in 1900, you had three articles belonging to Hubeeb Khan, and that Mahdooraee took them to give to Bhugwanlal, and that Bhugwanlal acknowledged the receiving them. When did he receive them, and where? all this no solemn affirmation, as on oath.

When Hubeeb Khan was being turned out of the ministry at Joonaghur, he gave them to me at that town, he sent them to me by the hands of two of his servants, one named Hussun, the other I do not remember; I was in Meer Isaak's huwelee, and they gave them to me in the sahor (centre hall), I was sitting there alone; they did not bring any letter, nor did I give any receipt, merely a message that I was to keep them; they did not bring any other articles; after this, a day or two, Hubeeb Khan and I came to Gondul after the Nuwab, and returned to Joonaghur, and a day or two after our return Mahdooraee came to my place at noon, and sat with me a short time up-stairs, and I agreed to give these things to Bhugwanlal; and we came down, and I took the heera sanklee and chundun har from Ata Hoosen, and in his presence gave them to Mahdooraee, who said that he would give them at night to Bhugwanlal, and would let me know of it in the morning; next morning about seven or eight o'clock, I and Ata Hoosen went to Bhugwanlal's house; Ata Hoosen sat outside; I went in, Mahdooraee was there, and called me in, and I met Bhugwanlal, and he said he had received them, and I left and came away with Ata Hoosen. Afterwards Hubeeb Khan and I met in Rajkote, and we disputed concerning the value of the articles; he gave me a note of them and their value, which I took to Goolabraee's house; with me were Juggun, my vakeel, Ata Hoosen and Gandee Kuba; they were aware of my reasons for going there; Goolabraee was in the osree (veranda), where I gave him the note, and he told Hubeeb Khan's vakeel that the price was too great, for that they were not worth so much, and that the kuntha was still with him, and that he would send Mahdooraee to Bhugwanlal to ask of the price of the two others; he gave the memorandum to Mahdooraee, and I went home and told Hubeeb Khan; next day Mahdooraee came, and I asked for the memorandum back; he promised to give it, but said it was at his house. I believe my mehta, Juggunath, was with me when Mahdooraee came, he perhaps may have heard Mahdooraee speaking of it, but I am not certain; I told him that the memorandum had not been returned.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

8 April 1845.

Cross-examined by Bhugwanlal.

Q. As you say these things were given to you by Hubeeb Khan, and that you gave them away on his account, how could any dispute arise between you about the price?—*A.* I gave them on my own account, and the articles being Hubeeb Khan's, and not having been weighed when they were given to me, the dispute arose.

Given on solemn affirmation before me.

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

9 April 1855.

Nooroodeen is called, and re-examined by the Political Agent.

Q. Did you, when I was at Joonaghur, agree to give anything to Bhugwanlal and Goolabraee from Hubeeb Khan?—*A.* Yes, 2,000 rupees were agreed on, for which I was answerable in default of his paying.

With whom was this agreement made, and when?—Your suwaree was going away, and Bhugwanlal was at Briglal's house; Hubeebkhan and I went there about 9 o'clock or later, there we met Bhugwanlal.

When in the house, did you meet him?—He was in another house, he was called; we were sitting on the open terrace down below, we sat there perhaps half an hour.

Were any other persons sitting with you?—No, not with us, we sat separately; but there were many others.

Do you recollect any persons who were there?—No, I do not; we did not speak to any one but Mahdooraee, who went away.

By whom did you send for Bhugwanlal?—I do not remember whether Hubeebkhan wrote him a note, or sent for him by any other nogur there.

When Bhugwanlal came, did he come alone?—Alone, and the others removed; and he came and sat by us, and we talked of the matter, and agreed that on Hubeeb Khan's affairs being settled, 2,000 rupees should be given to him.

Bhugwanlal was on the eve of departure, why should it have been given to him?—For his good word with Anuntjee.

Was Anuntjee, or any one else, to receive any portion of it?—I do not know.

How long did you sit to arrange this?—About a quarter of an hour in that place, we then alone spoke of it.

When you left, where did you go to?—To my lodging.

Did Hubeeb Khan go with you?—No, he went to his own house; we separated at the door of Briglal's house.

Before you went to Briglal's house, had any negotiation about this taken place?—No.

Before you came to Briglal's house, where did you meet Hubeeb Khan?—I met him at Bhugwanlal's house; I heard that he had gone to Goolabraee's, and a man of Hubeeb Khan's came to call me, and I met him close by Bhugwanlal's house, whence we went to Briglal's.

Did you see Briglal?—Yes, but did not speak to him.

Questioned by Bhugwanlal.

When you left Briglal's house, by what road did you go, and by what road did Hubeeb Khan go?—I do not exactly remember, but I went on the Kalwee Duwaga road; I had to go to Goolabraee's, so I went that road.

Taken on solemn affirmation, 9th April.

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

11 April 1845.

Can you prove that during the Political Agent's stay at Joonaghur Mahdooraee ever came to your lodging at Meer Isack's huwelee?—He came there many times, but the only intelligent man with me who would know him, was Ata Hoosen.

Can you prove, that during the same period you met Mahdooraee at Bhugwanlal's house?—Many people were spies on me at Joonaghur, so that I used to go there secretly, and often met him there; his people too, could prove it; but I can only state Ata Hoosen as able to do so.

Can you prove that at any time during the same period, you met Mahdooraee in the street, and went with him to Bhugwanlal's house?—I have gone there with him from his own house, as well as having met him in the street, but I could not get a witness from Joonaghur

Do you not remember at any time, any person with you on those occasions, save Ata Hoosen?—I do not remember.

11 April 1845.

Taken on solemn Affirmation before me.

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

Ata Hoosen.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Noorooden states, that you were present when he gave a heera sanklee and chundun har to Mahdooraee, were you present; state on solemn affirmation what you know of it.

About three days after you came to Joonaghur, Shekjee gave me to take care of, a chundun har, a heera sanklee, and a kuntha; about two days after, Mahdooraee came to Nooroodeen's place; Meer Isaks, huwelee. Shekhjee, and Mahdooraee were above; they came down, and Shekhjee told me to bring the hera sanklee and chundunhar; I gave them to him, and he gave them to Mahdooraee, who said that he would give them that night to Bhugwanlal; next morning, I and Shekhjee went to Bhugwanlal's house; he went in, I staid outside; when he came out, Mahdooraee came near to the door, and then returned; I asked Shekhjee if he had spoken of yesterday's business, he said yes. When the dispute concerning the value occurred before Hubeeb Khan and Shekhjee, Shekhjee Kuba and Juggur and I went to Goolabraee's with a memorandum of the price by Hubeeb Khan; Goolabraee said he had the kuntha by him, and that the price written was too great, and he would send Mahdooraee to Hubeeb Khan to ask concerning the two other things; this much I know.

Given on solemn affirmation before me, this 8th day of April 1845.

Bhugwanlal has no questions to put.

Sunwanee Hubeebkham is called and warned, and on solemn affirmation gives evidence.

Noorcodeen has represented, that in Sumvut 1900, he gave, on your account, to Bhugwanlal, a heera sanklee and a chundun har; state what you know of this.

When Mr. Malet came to Joonaghur I had three articles of jewellery; one a long heera sanklee, about 140, or more, gudeeanas, a chundunhar nouseera (of nine lines), about 32 gudeeanas, a kuntha for the neck, with diamond drops. At this time I was in fear, and I sent those things to Shekhjee's house, When the Sahib was going to Bhaonuggur, he ordered that I had better settle my matters privately with the Nuwab and Shekhjee; and I agreed to give to Bhugwanlal and Goolabraee 2,000 rupees; and Shekjee agreed to pay this, on the deposit of the above written articles. After this my payment to the Newab was determined, and I had leave to go from Joonaghur. I was getting ready to go, and Goolabraee told me that I should pay the 2,000 rupees, or that obstacles would be thrown in my way. I told him about these ornaments, and told him to take the money from Shekhjee. He said he knew nothing about them, but that I should speak to Shekhjee. Ata Hoosen and Juganath were at Joonaghur at the time; and the former said Shekhjee has given two ornaments to Bhugwanlal, a heera sanklee and chundunhar by my hand to Mahdooraee, who took them away. I sent to call Shekhjee. He could not come, but sent a message that he would speak of those things when we should meet.

A dispute arose concerning payments I had to make to the Nuwab, and I was detained at Joonaghur when Shekhjee came here. I then paid to Anudjee and Mahdooraee 3,000 korees, and got leave to come to Rajkote. I then asked Goolabraee, who said that Shekhjee had not given those things on my account; but if it had been so he would see him. I told this to Shekhjee, who said, "If this is so I will give you credit for them." So it rested a few days, when I again asked him for settlement. Jugga Mehta, Ata Hoosen, and Kuba and Shekhjee came to me, and told me to state the prices. I wrote it out for them, and they went away; and after some time Kuba returned, and said they had been to Goolabraee's, who said that those things were not worth so much, but that he had one at that time. Next day I went to Goolabraee's, and told him that if he doubted the value, I had got the heera sanklee at Kesod, from Jubbar Shet, who had bought it from Durumsee Heemchund, in Mangrol, for the price I had stated, about December 1842. Also I told him, that I had made up the kuntha for 1,900 korees, and the diamonds cost 350 korees, and that I had bought the chundunhar from Jeooraj Sha, of Ahmedabad, the cloth-merchant, I believe for more than 900 korees. He said I should settle it with Shekhjee, to whom I went and arranged the matter with him. I did not see the kuntha with Goolabraee; nor do I know by any other circumstances that the two articles were given to Bhugwanlal.

8 April 1845.

Cross-examined by Bhugwanlall.

Q. The Sahib's suwaree was going; you say that it was agreed that you should give 2,000 rupees to Goolabraee and me; I was not present, why should you give it to me?—*A.* The day the Sahib's suwaree went, that day Shekhjee and I went to Briglal's house, close to Bhugwanlal's, and there, in Bhugwanlal's presence, Shekhjee agreed to pay it for the settlement of my business.

Had I the power to do this, or the Government?—The Government, of course; but you and Goolabraee are of one mind, and Anudjee also; so I gave it for your goodwill with Goolabraee and Anudjee; 1,000 was for Goolabraee and one for Bhugwanlal.

Were Anudjee and Goolabraee present, and did I favourably recommend you?—They were not present at the time; but the matter was before arranged with Goolabraee, who told us to go to Bhugwanlal. I cannot say what recommendation was given for me, but your interests are the same; there is no separation between you.

When you came to visit me were you two alone?—Other people were sitting there in the dewan kana, and you got up and came with me and Shekhjee into the osree; there were many people outside as you were on the point of leaving.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Cross-examined by the Political Agent.

At what time of the day did you and Nooroodeen go to Briglal's house?—About eight or nine A.M.

Where did you and Nooroodeen meet before going there?—I went to Nooroodeen's house, thence we went to Goolabraee, and thence to Briglal's.

Who were with you and Nooroodeen?—I do not remember, but they were people of our own.

Do you remember who were sitting in the dewan khana with Bhugwanlal?—No, I do not remember any one.

How long did you remain in the veranda with him?—About three or four minutes.

How long did you sit in the dewan khana?—About one or two minutes in the dewan khana, before going into the veranda; after that we left immediately.

Did you speak to any one else in the dewan khana?—I cannot remember; nor do I remember if Nooroodeen did.

Did you see Briglal there?—I do not remember.

When you left, how far did you and Nooroodeen keep company?—To where the roads to our houses separate.

Before this day had you any conversation on this business with Nooroodeen?—Yes, and with Goolabraee.

Taken on solemn affirmation before me,

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

11 April 1845.

Hubeeb Khan is called and re-examined.

Q. Did Nooroodeen ever give you credit for those articles?—*A.* No, he has not given me money or credit for them.

Was the price of the articles determined after the dispute at Rajkote?—Shekhjee told me to give him a memorandum of the price, and he would inquire; and, finding it right, would pay. I gave him the note, and he inquired; but we did not fix the price after that.

Given on solemn affirmation before me.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Mehta Jugunath Mooljee is warned, and on solemn affirmation deposes:

Q. Shekh Nooroodeen states, that in a dispute relative to the value of three articles of jewellery, you went with him to Goolabraee's house; what were the circumstances?—*A.* There was a dispute between Shekhjee and Hubeebkhan relative to the value of certain ornaments; and I, and Shekhjee and Ata Hoosen went to Hubeeb Khan's house; he wrote down the value, and we went with the note to Goolabraee's, and gave it to him, who said that Hubeeb Khan had written too much, and that he had the kuntha still, and that he would send Mahdooraee to ask Bhugwanlal about the chundunhar and sanklee. He kept the note, and we came away. We went to Goolabraee's house about eight o'clock; I do not remember the date; a month, perhaps about two months ago.

Bhugwanlal puts no questions.

Given before me the 9th April 1845, on solemn affirmation.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Gandee Kuba Ootumchund, examined.

Q. When Hubeeb Khan and Nooreedeen were here together, about three months since, were you with them?—*A.* Yes, I was with Hubeeb Khan, in his service.

Do you remember any dispute between Nooroodeen and Hubeebkhan, concerning certain articles of jewellery?—Yes; Hubeebkhan, I believe, had given to Nooroodeen three articles in Joonaghur; and when they met here Hubeeb Khan wanted them back from him. Nooroodeen asked, "What do you want with them?" Hubeebkhan said, "I want to give them to the karbarees, otherwise my business will not be done." (I was present at this.) "I before spoke to you on this subject, why have you not yet given them?" Shekhjee said, "I gave them on my own account to Goolabraee." Hubeebkhan said, "As you gave them on your own account, you must pay me the value." Shekjee replied, "Write out the prices." Hubeeb Khan caused me to write them, and Shekhjee and Ata Hoosen, Juggun, and I went with the note to Goolabraee's, and there Shekhjee and Goolabraee sat together inside, and we were outside. Shortly they called me in; and Goolabraee said, "You have estimated these things too highly; they are not of such value." He kept the note, and I went and informed Hubeeb Khan what he said, and then went to my house.

Do you know whether Shekjee gave anything to Hubeeb Khan for these things?—No.

Do you know what the articles were?—One was a kuntha, with diamond drops, one was a chundunhar, the other a sanklee; I did not see them, but wrote them by Hubeeb Khan's direction.

You wrote the price of them; do you remember them?—No.

Were Nooroodeen and Goolabraee alone when you were called in?—Yes.

Did

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Did you hear Goolabraee say which of the articles he had, and which Bhugwanlal had?—No.

Did you hear Goolabraee's name only in the matter, or Bhugwanlal's also?—Goolabraee's alone.

When Goolabraee said the price was too much, did he mention how he could prove it?—Yes; he said, "The articles must be deposited somewhere, and can be examined."

Did he say with whom they were?—No.

When you went from Goolabraee's to Hubeeb Khan's did you go alone?—We all left Goolabraee's house together, and separated in the streets; no one went to Hubeebkhan's house with me.

At Goolabraee's, besides your own people and his, did you see any one else?—There may have been others inside, but I did not see any, nor hear any other speak.

Was there any other person in the room with Nooroodeen and Goolabraee?—Not that I saw.

Has any one endeavoured to influence your evidence on this subject, either by fears or favour?—No.

Whose service are you in?—Hubeebkhan's; my service is that of a karkoon.

Taken before me on solemn affirmation, this 10th day of April 1845,

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Mahadooraee Ambasunkur.

Q. While the Political Agent was in Joonaghur last year, were you in the habit of going to Nooroodeen's residence?—*A.* No, I never went there once, at that time; for being in the Newab's service, with whom Nooroodeen was in disfavour, I could not go there.

At that period did you ever meet Nooroodeen in Bhugwanlal's house?—No.

Lately, perhaps two and a half months ago, while living with Goolabraee, did Nooroodeen ever come to the house?—Never alone, or with a few people; he has come with many others several times; never, I think, with less than 10 or 15 people, to talk about Mangrol.

Do you remember his coming with Juggun, Ata Hoosen, and Kuba Gandee?—No

Were you ever present lately during a discussion between Nooroodeen and Goolabraee, concerning the price of articles of jewellery?—No.

Did you ever receive a memorandum from him, in which the price of these articles were stated?—No.

10 April 1845.

Cross-examined by Nooroodeen.

Q. When I a second time asked you for the memorandum, what answer did you give?—I never was asked for it by you.

After the memorandum was given you, did you ever come to my lodging?—I know nothing about the memorandum whatever.

Did you ever come to my lodging?—Yes; when the discussion between Syud Ameer Meea, now karbaree of Mangrol, and you were going, I was in that business.

When the Political Agent was at Joonaghur, and the disputes between the Nuwaub and Hubeebkhan were going on, did you never come to my house?—I never, at that time, went to Meer Isaks huwelee.

After Hubeeb Khan was dismissed from the Joonaghur ministry, did not you and I meet at Bhugwanlal's house?—No, certainly not.

Did you never, having met me in the street, go to Bhugwanlal's house with me during that period?—No, never.

11 April 1845.

Given on solemn affirmation before me.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Bhugwanlal states:—Mahdooraee and Nooroodeen never, on any occasion, were together at my house at Joonaghur.

I had gone to take leave of my mother, who lives in Briglal's house, and there were many of our people; Lukshmun, Shunkur, Dewar, I think, Purbhoodas, and a great number of Brahmins; Hubeeb Khan came in and sat with them. I had got ready to go, and took leave of my mother, and came and sat with them for a little time. I did not even, that I recollect, speak to Hubeeb Khan, and Nooroodeen was not there; and I left; and my own family and others came with me to the gate.

Given before me, this 9th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Enclosure No. 7, to Government Letter, No. 56 of 1845.

Remarks on Evidence on an Accusation of Extortion against Bhugwan Lal Mud unje marked No. XI.

This is an accusation by Shekh Nooroodeen, late karbaree of Joonaghur, against the native agent on the establishment of the Political Agent in Katteewar, for receiving an ooturee, value about 1,300 korees.

Nooroodeen states, that he alone was present when the ooturee was given. He does not know where the person is who accompanied him to Bhugwan Lal's house.

Wurjpal deposes to having sold Nooroodeen the ooture.

Nehalchund deposes that Nooroodeen bought the ooturee from Wurjpal, for a present to his son Hashen.

Bhugwan Lal denies the affair altogether.

There is no evidence to substantiate this charge; but the deposition of Nooroodeen will show how little trust can be put on him, and the method in which the accounts of the chiefs are managed by their karbarees; it will also enable Government to judge of the degree of credit to be attached to his evidence and accusations.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Accusation XI.

Nooroodeen.

In your petition you state that you got an ooturee (a gold necklace worn by men) from Wurjpal, burneea of Rajkote, and gave it to Bhugwanlal; state, on solemn affirmation, the particulars of this.

In 1900 I believe, in Shawal, I got the oouturee from Wurjpal; he brought it to my lodging to sell; my people were present, but they wont know anything about it. A nagur in my service, Nehalchund, was sitting writing. I sent him into the bazar to weigh it; he did so, and brought it back to me. He will not give evidence on this subject, as he is a servant now of the Mangrol Durbar, and an enemy of mine; so that I have no reliance that he will speak the truth; he is here at present. The weight was above 40 tolas, value above 1,300 korees.

I kept the ooturee three or four days in my box, and then took it at night to Bhugwanlal's house. A sepahee, Jakoobkan Putan, was with me. He was not in my service, but was staying with me. He is not here at present; he staid outside. I showed him the ooturee when I was leaving the house, and mentioned my purpose; but he cannot know whether I gave it or not. I gave it to Bhugwanlal, in his new room that has been built about three years. A man like a rajpoot was sitting with him when I went in, but he rose and went out as I came; I do not know who he was. There was no one else. This was about nine o'clock at night.

I have an account with Wurjpal, in which this is written.

9th April 1845.—Examined by Political Agent.

Q. How did you pay for the ooturee?—*A.* I wrote a note for the amount on Nuthoo Boganee.

In what account did you enter it?—In the Durbar expenses at Rajkote; but it is not entered as bought, in the accounts given to the Durbar, in which particulars are not stated.

From what accounts do you make up those you send to the Durbar?—I keep a waee, in which all expenses are entered.

Will this be found in it?—I do not think it was entered.

Then how were you to make up the account for the Durbar?—I show the total to the Durbar.

If the Durbar calls for items, how do you give them?—I can get them from the persons from whom the articles are procured.

You state above, that you keep a waee in which expenditure is entered, now you say that you would get the items from the persons with whom you dealt?—At Rajkote I got the money for my expenditure from the Modee, and when to pay it I get a hoondee from Mangrol, and keep the money at a sahookar's, on whom I write orders for payment to the Modee.

You do not show the items to the Durbar, nor keep a book of them; how do you regulate your accounts, or how, on an examination of them, are they to be believed?—All the expenditure for food, forage, &c. is with the Moodee, and he makes up the accounts, which can be shown to the Durbar; but such expenditure as this is not shown in them, but is either mixed up in them, or comes into parchoum khurach (sundry expenses).

You have stated that the articles given at Porbunder were entered in the Dubar accounts, and now you state that the ooturee is not an expense as would come into them?—These things were brought to me by the Durbar servants, and were therefore entered; but this article I bought myself.

But you were the Durbar servant, and bought it on account of the Durbar; how is it that you would not enter it?—This being a transaction of such a nature, would not be mentioned to the Durbar.

The transaction you state at Porbunder was precisely similar, was it not. Why should the difference be made?—Because the things given at Porbunder were brought by the Durbar

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Durbar servants, so that it was known, otherwise it would not have been entered. Since this was bought my accounts have not been examined.

You state in your petition that the Durbar will not give you remission for these expenses; and now you state that they are mixed up with the Moodeekhana accounts, which will of course be passed; how is this?—The remission I want from the Durbar is for the things I gave on Hubeeb Khan's account, not for this; these last accounts have not yet been examined. If on their examination objection is made, I should want this, because, though mixed up in the Modee Khana accounts, it can be separated from them, because I received money from the Durbar for my expenses, and my private Mehta also sent me money; but if I state to the Durbar that so much money was expended on the Modee Khana, so much for sundries, and so much for buth khurch (pocket money); if the last is refused, it can be deducted; now that I have stated this expense to the Sirkar, I shall of course have to enter it.

Then from this it appears that if your Modeekurch accounts, in which this has been mixed up, had been passed, and you afterwards should bring forward this item, the Modeekhana accounts would be all falsified?—If it is mixed up in them, it would be so; but not if it is put into the account of sundries or pocket money.

You say that this item can be entered in the Modeekhana accounts; why could you not similarly enter that given on Hubeeb Khan's account?—That was a large item, and would require to be mentioned to the Durbar; one reason also for not mentioning this is, that I had money of my own; but if necessary I would state it on examination of the accounts; the Modeekhana expenses were written in my name; but I got money from the Durbar to pay them.

Given on solemn affirmation before me, this 9th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

Wurjpal.

Q. In Noorooden's petition he states that he purchased from you an article of jewellery; is this the case?—*A.* Yes; he bought a gold ooturee of the value (he refers to his books) of *Ks.* 1,335. 14, weighing 42½ gudeeanas and 2 wab; the entry in the book is shown, it was delivered on the 10th or 11th of Kartik Shood; I gave it to him at his lodgings in Dya Khoja's house. I am a cloth merchant, and sell these things; I took it there, and with him in his house settled the price; he kept it two or three days in his house, and then agreed to the price; Mehachund Mehta was with Nooroodeen at the time; several other men were there, sitting and eating "pan sooparee;" he went with me and weighed it, and we returned; I got paid for it (refers to his books) from Purshotum Thakoor's shop, about the same date, by Nuthoo Kheemjee Modee.

Leaf 9 of the awera.

Leaf 13 of the awera.

9 April 1845.

Q. Where did you go last night?—*A.* I went from hence to my shop, and staid about a ghurree, when the Jemadar Lukmunsing brought a peon, who staid there all night; I remained in my shop all night; no one came to call me during the night or morning; the only people I spoke to were some Beparees.

Taken on solemn affirmation before me, this 9th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

Q. Did you get more money from Nooroodeen than the price of the ooturee?—*A.* Yes; 8½ korees, for which I gave credit in the cloth; when I found it out, I told him of it.

Did Mehalchund come to you about this?—Yes, and we agree that credit should be given in the cloth account.

As above.

(signed) *A. Malet.*
Political Agent.

Mehalchund Anundram.

Nooroodeen states that you were present when he bought an ooturee of Wurjpal; state the particulars.

I am a servant of Mangrol, and came here in 1900 with Shekhjee, in Kartik; I was one day sitting with him; Nooroodeen said, my son Hushun wants an ooutree, and I have again been asked for it in a letter; he said he had spoken to Wurjpal about it, and told me to go to him: I said I would go as soon as I had dined; I went to Shekhjee's afterwards, and there was Wurjpal, who had brought the ooturee, and was sitting. Wurjpal weighed it, and valued it; and he wrote an order for the value, 1,237 korees, I believe, on Modee Nuthoo Kheemjee; Wurjpal may have weighed it in the bazar; I was not with him when he did so; I kept a note of the price, and about 15 days after entering it in the accounts, found that Wurjpal had received 8½ korees too much; then I told Shekhjee, who said, I have sent it to Mangrol, but get the over payment from Wurjpal; I went to him, and he promised to give credit in the cloth account, which he did.

Is called, and signs.

Given on solemn affirmation before me, this 9th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Rhugwan Lal states as follows:

Hubeebkhan and Nooroodeen never came to my house without Govindjee; and if ever either of them came, Govindjee was with him, or came immediately after, for he was acquainted with, and employed in all the Mangrol and Joonaghur business since 1898; therefore he should be called and examined.

It is not expected that I should not be at least on speaking terms with any persons in the favour of the Sirkar. In 1898, Hubeebkhan and Nooroodeen, when my brother Wurjlal was Zubteedar at Mangrol, made many complaints to Captain Jacob against him and me, against him by letter, and against me *vivâ voce:* and when on that gentleman going to Mangrol he inquired into the matter, no suspicion was left on his mind; from that time till now, it seems that their enmity to me has been kept up.

As to what is said about the ooturee being taken from Wurjpal, this sort of dealing is of constant occurrence; I never received it; the chief way of their cheating the talookdars is by taking the names of the Government servants. Nooroodeen now states that in 1898 he received a farkhuttee from Mangrol, and now he petitions for these things, or their value to be remitted to him; this is sheer enmity on his part, I see no other name for it.

Given before me, 9th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

No. 4189.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and the Honourable Mr. *Reid.*

1. WITH the accompanying letter, Mr. Malet, the Political Agent in Kattywar, submits the result of his inquiry into the following charges of bribery and corruption preferred against his native agent, Bhugwanlall Mudhurgee, by a person who was formerly minister of Mangrolee, but who it appears has been dismissed.

1st Charge, that he, Bhugwanlal, obtained by extortion from the complainant in 1839–40, a pair of bullocks.

2d Charge, that he, Bhugwanlal, received as a bribe in 1840-41, from the complainant, a gold chain and a piece of gold bullion.

3d Charge, that he, Bhugwanlal, received at Joonaghur in 1843–44, from the complainant, two gold chains and a gold necklace.

4th Charge, that he. Bhugwanlal, received in 1843–44, as a bribe, from the complainant, a gold chain of the value of 1,200 korees.

2. These bribes are alleged to have been given to secure the good-will of the receiver in adjusting certain matters in which the giver was concerned, connected with the Joonaghur and Mangrolle Durbars.

3. I have carefully considered Mr. Malet's proceedings. They appear to have been conducted with impartiality, and an anxious desire to elicit the truth: I see no reason for dissenting from the conclusions at which he has arrived, acquitting the accused of all the charges.

4. These questions are always most difficult. On the one hand, nothing is easier than to concoct charges of this kind; on the other, when well-founded, they are exceedingly difficult to prove, if ordinary prudence has been exercised by the guilty party. In such cases therefore we must mainly rest on the consistency and probability of the evidence, the character of the accuser, and the motives in instituting the prosecution. In the present case the prosecution fails in all these essentials, as will be seen by Mr. Malet's remarks.

5. In regard to the first charge, Bhugwanlal admits that he received the two bullocks, but declares that he purchased them from the complainant for the sum of 250 korees (not 250 rupees, as stated by Mr. Malet in his remarks on this charge). He is unable to produce a receipt for the payment of the money, but produces before Mr. Malet his private accounts, which contains an entry written at the time the transaction occurred of the purchase, and the price paid for the bullocks. I see no reason for dissenting from Mr. Malet, in considering that the entry

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

entry is *bonâ fide*, and therefore in the absence of other proof to the contrary, acquit the accused. But at the same time Mr. Malet should be informed that the transaction in itself is objectionable, and that his native agent ought not to have purchased the bullocks from a person who was closely connected with political matters pending in his office.

6. In regard to the second charge, Nooroodeen, the accuser, deposes that he purchased the articles mentioned in the charge for Bhugwanlal, and that he himself gave them to Bhugwanlal in the presence of a person named Ata Hussain, who is in his, Nooroodeen's, service. The latter confirms his master's statement; but there is an important, and, I think, fatal discrepancy in their evidence. The master states the presents were given in an inner room; the servant states that they were given in an outer room of Bhugwanlal's house.

7. Bhugwanlal denies all knowledge of the transaction, and declares it to be false; but as might be expected in a case of this kind, he is unable to adduce any direct evidence to refute the accusation. He observes, however, that at the period when the bribe is alleged to have been given, many other persons were residing in the same house, some of whom would have witnessed the transaction as well as Ata Hussain. I do not attach much weight to this plea; but the fact afterwards mentioned, that he was shortly after robbed of all he possessed, and gave in a list of the property stolen from him, in which the articles given as a bribe are not alluded to, is perhaps worth something. But considering that the whole charge rests on the evidence of Nooroodeen, who from these proceedings evidently cannot be trusted, and his servant, Ata Hussain, and that there is an important discrepancy in their evidence, I concur with Mr. Malet in pronouncing Bhugwanlal's acquittal on this charge.

8. On the third charge, the evidence of Nooroodeen and his witnesses is shown by Mr. Malet to be contradictory in several essential points; and I agree with the Political Agent, that in consequence of the discrepancies and contradictions of the witnesses, the charge is unworthy of credit, and acquit the accused accordingly.

9. The fourth charge is entirely dependant on the testimony of the accuser: under any circumstances, therefore, Bhugwanlal must be acquitted of this charge, even were not various inconsistencies and prevarications observable in the accuser's statements. This, however, by casting discredit on the accuser is in favour of Bhugwanlal's innocence of the other charges emanating from the same person.

10. Bhugwanlal should be immediately released from suspension, and be permitted to resume his duties, subject to the proviso mentioned in the 14th para. of his letter. The Political Agent seems fully impressed with the necessity of keeping a vigilant watch over his native establishment, who are undoutedly exposed to great temptations in a country like Kattywar. The only mode, however, in which these can be diminished, is, by Mr. Malet being easy of access to all, by transacting business in the most public manner, and by not placing too much confidence in any individual on his establishment.

11. In the present case, the Political Agent should prepare an abstract of the case in the Gujerattee language, and explanations of the grounds on which his native agent has been fully acquitted, and avail himself of the opportunity to add a few remarks, pointing out the folly of any parties, with causes pending before him, thinking to compass their ends by bribes. This should then be read out in open Durbar, and afterwards posted up in a conspicuous situation in his Kutcherry.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
T. M'Mahon.
L. R. Reid.

26 April 1845.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others

No. 4190.

No. 2131 of 1845.—Political Department.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 12th instant, No. 56, submitting the result of an inquiry you had instituted into the charges of bribery and corruption, noted in the margin,* preferred against your native agent, Bhugwunlal Madowjee, by an individual named Nowroodeen, who was formerly minister of the Mangrole state, but who, it appears, has been dismissed from that office.

* *See* below.

2. These bribes are alleged to have been given to secure the goodwill of the receiver in adjusting certain matters in which the giver was concerned, connected with the Joonaghur and Mangrole Durbars.

3. The Governor in Council having carefully considered the whole of your proceedings in this case, is of opinion that they have been conducted with impartiality, and with an anxious desire to elicit the truth; and Government sees no reason for dissenting from the conclusions at which you have arrived, acquitting the accused of all the charges preferred against him.

4. Questions of this nature are always most difficult to decide upon. On the one hand, nothing is easier than to fabricate such charges; while on the other, when well founded, they are exceedingly difficult to prove, if ordinary prudence has been exercised by the guilty party. In such cases, therefore, the decision must mainly rest on the consistency and probability of the evidence, the character of the accuser, and the motives in instituting the prosecution. In the present case, the prosecution, as shown in your remarks, fails in all these essentials.

† That he, Bhugwunlal, obtained by extortion from the complainant, in 1839–40, a pair of bullocks.

5. In regard to the first charge,† Bhugwanlal admits that he received the two bullocks, but declares that he purchased them from the complainant for the sum of 250 korees (not 250 rupees, as stated by you in your remarks on this charge). He is unable to produce a receipt for the payment of this money, but produces his private accounts, which contain an entry, written at the time the transaction occurred, of the purchase and the price paid for the bullocks. The Governor in Council sees no reason for dissenting from your opinion that the entry is *bonâ fide*, and therefore in the absence of other proof to the contrary, acquits the accused on this charge. At the same time, I am desired to inform you that the transaction in itself is objectionable, and your native agent ought not to have purchased the bullocks from a person who was closely connected with political matters pending in your office.

‡ That he, Bhugwunlal, received as a bribe, in 1840–41 from the complainant, a gold chain and a piece of gold bullion.

6. In regard to the second charge,‡ Nowroodeen, the accuser, deposes that he purchased the articles therein mentioned for Bhugwanlal in the presence of a person named Ata Hussain, who is in his (Nowrooddeen's) service. Ata Hussain confirms his master's statement; but there is an important and fatal discrepancy in their evidence; the master states that the presents were given in an inner, while the servant states that they were given in an outer room of Bhugwunlal's house.

7. Bhugwunlal denies all knowledge of the transaction, and declares it to be false, but as might be expected in a case of this nature, he is unable to adduce any direct evidence to refute the accusation. He observes, however, that at the period when the bribe is alleged to have been given, many other persons were residing in the same house, some of whom would have witnessed the transaction as well as Ata Hussain, had it really taken place. The Governor in Council does not

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* First charge, that he, Bhugwanlal, obtained by extortion from the complainant, in 1839-40, a pair of bullocks.

Second charge, that he, Bhugwunlal, received as a bribe, in 1840–41, from the complainant, a gold chain and a piece of gold bullion.

Third charge, that he, Bhugwunlal, received at Joonaghur, in 1843–44, from the complainant, two gold chains and a gold necklace.

Fourth charge, that he, Bhugwunlal, received, in 1843–44, as a bribe from the complainant, a gold chain, of the value of 1,200 korees.

not attach much weight to this plea, but the fact afterwards mentioned, that he was shortly after robbed of all he possessed, and gave in a list of the property stolen from him, in which the articles said to have been given as a bribe are not alluded to, is deserving of some consideration.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

8. Considering, therefore, that the whole charge rests on the evidence of Nowrooddeen, who from these proceedings evidently cannot be trusted, and his servant Ata Hussain, and that there is an important discrepancy in their evidence, the Honourable the Governor in Council concurs with you in pronouncing Bhugwunlal's acquittal on this charge.

9. On the third charge,* the evidence of Nowrooddeen and his witnesses is shown to be contradictory in several essential points, and the Governor in Council agrees with you, that in consequence of these discrepancies and contradictions the charge is unworthy of credit, and acquits the accused accordingly.

* That he, Bhugwunlal, received at Joonaghur, in 1843–44, from the complainant, two gold chains and a gold necklace.

10. The fourth charge † is entirely dependant on the testimony of the accuser. Under any circumstances, therefore, Bhugwunlal must be acquitted of this charge, even were there not various inconsistencies and prevarications observable in the accuser's statements. This, also, by casting discredit on the accuser, is in favour of Bhugwunlal's innocence of the other charges emanating from the same person.

† That he, Bhugwunlal, received, in 1843–44, as a bribe from the complainant, a gold chain, of the value of 1,200 korees.

11. Bhugwunlal having thus been acquitted on all the charges preferred against him, the Governor in Council is pleased to direct his being immediately released from suspension, and permitted to resume his duties as native agent, subject, however, to the proviso mentioned in the 14th para. of your letter.

12. The Governor in Council is happy to observe that you seem fully impressed with the necessity of keeping a vigilant watch over your native establishment, who are undoubtedly exposed to great temptations in a country like Kattywar. The only mode, however, in which this can be diminished, is by your being easy of access to all, by transacting business in the most public manner, and by not placing too much confidence in any individual on your establishment.

13. You will be pleased to prepare an abstract of the present case in the Guzerattee language, explanatory also of the grounds on which your native agent has been fully acquitted; you might at the same time avail yourself of the opportunity to add a few remarks, pointing out the folly of any parties having causes pending before you, thinking to compass their ends by bribery. This should then be read in open Durbar, and afterwards posted up in a conspicuous situation in you Kutcherry.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle,
29 April 1845.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Chief Secretary.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 21 May 1845. No. 4730.

Persian Department.

Substance of a Petition from *Bulwuntroy Jadhowroy*, Moonshee of Joonagur, to the Honourable the Governor in Council, dated 24 July, and received 7 August 1844.

As Parekh Jubur Leeladhur, who managed the affairs of the Joonagur State with full power, would not render an account of the lacs of korees he had spent, the Nawab was compelled to have recourse to compulsory measures. Mr. Malet, the Political Agent, who happened to be in Joonagur at that time, also wrote to Jubur, that it was incumbent upon him to render the account. In reply, he addressed two or three petitions to Mr. Malet, stating that he wished to represent to him in person certain matters regarding the account. The Nuggurs serving under Mr. Malet, however, did not allow him to have a meeting. They suspected that if he had an interview with Mr. Malet he would disclose to him the particulars of the bribes which he had given them from the Nawab's treasury. Afterwards, with the knowledge of the Political Agent, the Nawab fired a gun at Jubur's house; but as he did not heed this measure, he was manacled and imprisoned in a place called Oopurkote. Even this step would not induce him

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

to render the account. Afterwards, when Mr. Malet proceeded towards Bhownuggur and Palitana, the Nuggurs apprehending that Jubur might reveal to the Nawab the particulars of the bribes, promised him (Jubur) to procure his release through Mr. Malet's orders. Accordingly, when they obtained the requisite order from Mr. Malet, I remonstrated against the proceeding, in conformity with the instructions of the Nawab. Afterwards, Jubur nominated four trustworthy arbitrators, and executed a writing in the names of the Nawab and Mr. Malet, at the same time he wrote requesting that a deduction might be allowed to him for the sum of 45,000 korees, which he had expended in the late proceedings. When the Nuggurs heard this, they induced the Nawab, by various contrivances, to employ Unundjee Ummurchund to manage his affairs, and afterwards they secretly made promises to Jubur. On this, Jubur thought that it would not be advisable to disclose the conduct of the Nuggurs, who might by some means or other procure his release, and managed to get back the letter which he had written on the subject of the 45,000 korees. Captain Aston was at that time in Joonagur, and Nuggur Goolabroy Umbashunkur, who was with him, afforded his assistance to Jubur. Afterwards, Jubur pretended to swallow a bit of diamond, saying that Bulwuntroy (petitioner) was forcing him to point out some instances of corrupt conduct on the part of Bhugwunlal and Goolabroy. On this, neither Captain Aston nor Mr. Malet made any inquires of me on the point; but at the instigation of the Nuggurs, and on the statement of the rogue and prisoner, Jubur, they had me placed under surveillance. When the Nawab asked what had become of the gold mohurs in the Jamree,* which was in the treasury, no reply was returned to him. Neither did Mr. Malet institute any inquiry when the matter was referred to him. Without making any inquiries regarding the persons concerned in procuring Jubur's release, and placing confidence on partial representation, Captain Aston prepared a charge against me. I therefore addressed a petition to Mr. William Loch, requesting him to bring my case to the notice of Mr. Malet; but as that gentleman was not connected with the Political Agency, and as he could not inquiry into the matter, without the permission of the Agent, he could grant me no redress. I have herewith sent a copy† of the petition for the information of your Excellency in Council. The Political Agent acts according to the representations of the Nuggurs, who always succeed in concealing their acts. The disorder prevailing in this country is unprecedented. The Nuggurs openly receive bribes, and mismanage everything, but still the Political Agent pays no attention to these proceedings. If the Judicial Commissioner be deputed to inquire into this and other cases, I, and several other injured persons, are ready to establish, with due evidence, the charge against the native agent, Bhugwunlal Muddonjee, and Goolabroy Umbashunkur. The Nuggers have received bribes in several cases, and if any person makes a petition on the subject to the Political Agent, they either suppress it, or misrepresent the matter. What grounds had the Political Agent for affording assistance to Jubur, when he was required by the Nawab to render an account of his money? At the instigation the Nuggurs, the Political Agent took into consideration the statement of the prisoner Jubur, while he paid no attention to my representation. As there is no officer here who would listen to any person, no complaints are made; and if a person does venture to make a complaint, the Nuggurs raise some charge against him, and thereby ruin him. Neither the Political Agent nor the Government is informed of these proceedings. If the office of Serishtedar be conferred upon a person who does not belong to the Nuggur caste, the business will go on properly. As all the Nuggurs have combined together, such dishonest and deceitful proceedings as I have pointed out take place. The duty of attaching property, the offices of vakeel, and various other duties, are entrusted to none but the Nuggurs. The Nuggurs are moreover employed as "Musalee Pallas,"‡ and receive allowances. It is surprising the Political Agent does not take notice of such proceedings. Should the Nawab, who is a minor, not act according to the wishes of the Nuggurs, he will not be allowed to hold his state. He is thus obliged to act according to the advice of Unundjee Ummurchund, Goolabroy Umbashunkur, and others. The truth of this statement will be apparent on making inquiries of the Nawab, through an officer unconnected with the Political Agency. A clear proof of the corrupt conduct of the Nuggurs may be obtained from the account-books of the Joonagur and Wudhwan states. Mr. Malet is well aware of these circumstances, and has also issued an order on the subject; but as the Nuggurs are the Karbharies, the Talookdars can say nothing. Bhugwunlal Muddonjee has

* A brass pot of a particular description.

† Has been received.

‡ Persons who act as candidates for the situation of sepoys

has himself erased his own name from the account-book of the Wudhwan state, and has had that of another written in its stead. Thakursee, son of Dayaset Karbharee, of Wudhwan, who has gone to Rajcote, goes about declaring that Bhugwunlal, and others, have received bribes from the Wudhwan State, and that he is prepared to prove the charge. As, however, disorder prevails in Rajcote, Thakursee has allowed the matter to lie over. This is well known to the servants in the Political Agent's office, as also to the vakeels, and other persons. Should the Political Agent inquire into this matter in his magisterial capacity, with the assistance of a karcoon who is not a Nuggur, everything will come to light. The Duruk has been enjoyed by my family for four generations, but still Unundjee Nuggur having ill-advised the Nawab, has had me suspended from my office, and has had my geeras allowances placed in deposit. He has moreover caused my office to be entrusted to a Nuggur, supported by Bhugwunlal. Deewan Sudasheo Rao Dewajee also, on a groundless charge, has been deprived of his office. If Unundjee had not the management of the Nawab's affairs, the acts of corruption could not have remained concealed.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

(signed) *W. Escombe*,
Secretary to Government.

No. 3541 of 1844.—Political Department.

REFERRED for the report of the Political Agent in Kattywar.

(By order, &c.)
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle,
21 November 1844.

Government, 141 of 1,844.—General, No. 564. No. 4731.

Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Kattywar, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

1. I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Order, No. 3,541, dated 21st instant, transmitting for report a petition from Bulwuntroy Jadooroy.

2. Nearly the whole of what is contained in this document is already before Government, more especially that relating to Juburlee Ladhur, which is the principal portion. I can, however, add, that I had three interviews with him at Joonagur; at one, my establishment was present; at another, if any one but himself was with me, it was his friend and partner, Hubeeb Khan; and at one, no one else was present. At neither of the two last-mentioned visits was there any reason for him to hide anything from me, but much inducement to palliate his own delinquencies, by inculpating others. He also, at least twice, visited Captain Aston, and at least one of these visits was strictly private.

3. The state to which he (a Banian by caste) was reduced by Bulwuntroy is already before Government; and yet, in his extremity, he refused to accuse the Political Agent's establishment, which accusation (not pecuniary benefit to his master) was Bulwuntroy's object.

4. Jubur Shet is now at large on Hazir Zamin, but bound by the decision of a punchayet to pay large sums of money to the Nawab. It is but a few days since, that his Highness informed me, that no money had as yet been paid; and in reply, I wrote to him that it was in his power to compel adhesion to the punchayet's decision, on the faith of which comparative freedom had been allowed to him.

5. The petition alluded to, as sent to Captain Loch, was given to that gentleman in my house, and returned unread by my advice.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

6. The Wudhwan papers are ready, and will be forwarded in a few days.

7. Bulwuntroy is at present confined by the Nawab, to answer for his own peculations. Release, on his assertion that he is able to prove his accusation against others, is a natural object to him; it will not, however, be forgotten that he risks nothing by this assertion, and has every hope of gain.

8. Bulwuntroy was in the confidence of the late Nawab (no great recommendation); he was in such power and employ under the Regency of Dadee Boo, that no bribe could well have been given without his knowledge. He was, against my wish, as he well knew (for I detected him in a most barefaced falsehood, to screen a detected scoundrel of his own caste, and for some time forbade him my presence), highly favoured by the present Nawab; and, above all, Jubur Shet was in his cruel power, exerted in vain to the last extremity to procure information, now asserted to be possessed by him in his fallen state, though all his cruelties failed in gaining it, when armed with despotic power, which its possession would for a considerable time have ensured.

9. It really appears to me, that had my establishment received bribes from Joonaghur, I could not in the late changes but have been informed of it; from the Nawab's death till now, several strong parties have always been interested in giving information, which is now offered alone by a man in such a situation, that not having before been in possession of it, it is almost impossible that he can now obtain it.

10. The requested examination of the Nawab's accounts is, I need hardly remind you, without a change in our Kattywar policy, impracticable. The imbecility of the chief of Wudhwan, and the alienation of his property by those who should have increased it, gave me a title to examine the dufturs of that state; but that proceeding could not form a precedent for Joonaghur.

11. In the vituperation of the Nuggurs, which is so often indulged in by persons of other tribes, I find a necessity for stating the following facts: The convictions of, or suspicions against, the very numerous employés of this caste, in Kattywar, are infinitely less in proportion than with any other description of educated men; they bear a higher character, have more to lose, and are better known and liked as a class in this province, than any other, and, in consequence, are employed in greater numbers, and more responsible situations. I believe I do them but common justice in stating these facts at this conjecture, however well I may suppose them already known to Government.

I have, &c.

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katt^{r} Pol^{l} Agency, Rajcote,
29 November 1844.

No. 4732.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and the Honourable Mr. *Reid*.

1. UNDER this report, I do not see any advantage likely to result from the prosecution of this inquiry, and the Political Agent may be so informed.

2. Nothing is easier than to prefer charges of bribery and corruption against our native functionaries, but whilst it is the duty of Government to cause all complaints having a *primâ facie* appearance of truth, false accusations should by every means be discouraged.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
T. M'Mahon.
L. R. Reid.

6 May 1844.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 4733.

No. 2420 of 1845.—Political Department.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 29th November last, No. 141, reporting upon a petition from Bulwuntroy Jadowroy, of Joonaghur, dated the 24th July 1844, preferring charges of bribery and corruption against certain individuals therein mentioned.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you, that under the circumstances stated in your letter, the Governor in Council is of opinion that no advantage is likely to result from the prosecution of an inquiry into these charges.

3. I am at the same time directed to observe, that nothing is easier than to prefer charges of bribery and corruption against the native functionaries of Government; but whilst the Governor in Council deems it to be his duty to cause all complaints having a *primâ facie* appearance of truth to be immediately investigated, he is anxious that false accusations should by every possible means be discouraged.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle,
19 May 1845.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 4 June 1845.

Government, No. 58 of 1845.—General, No. 245 of 1845.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

No. 5297.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit as per margin, statements relative to a complaint by Sheikh Nooroodeen against Brijlall Mudunjee, a brother of Bhugwanlall Mudunjee, my native agent, and a karkoon on the Political Agent's Establishment.

1. Petition from Sheik Nooroodeen, dated 1 April 1845.
2. Evidence, statement, and opinion on Case No. 1.
3. Evidence, statement, and opinion on Case No. 2.
4. Evidence, statement, and opinion on Case No. 3.

2. The accusations are three; one, that a bribe of 700 korees was received by Brijlal at Mangrol in Sumvut 1895, (A. D. 1838–39). The second, that gold was received by him at Joonaghur, in Sumvut 1897, (A. D. 1840–41). The third, that a gold chain and a ring were received by him at Mangrol in Sumvut 1897.

3. I am of opinion that Brijlall is innocent altogether of these accusations, and that they are the result of a conspiracy to ruin the native agent and his family by any means, whether true or false.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency,
Rajkote, 15 April 1845.

Enclosure 1, to Government Letter, No. 58 of 1845.

PETITION from *Sheikh Nooroodeen*, dated 1 April 1845.

I PETITION that in 1895, Mehta Brijlal, on Captain Aston's order, came to Mangrol on account of the dispute between the Durbar and Babajee, to inquire into it. At that time I and Mehta Kusseedass went together, and gave him 700 korees; after this, in 1897, when there was a dispute concerning the nuzwrana to Joonaghur, Mr. Blane sent a sequestration on Mangrol, and Mehta Brijlal received it at Joonaghur. I was there at the time, and I got through Sungwee Ladha Meghjee, 20 gudeeanas and 2 wals of gold, and gave it to him; at the time of delivery the Sungwee aforesaid was present. In 1897 sequestration

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

was in force on this account; at that time a gold chain of 15 gudeeanas and a ver (ring) of five gudeeanas were given to the aforesaid Mehta; at the time of giving this, Mehta Jugunath and Nuseedass were present. This is my petition.

1900 Phalgoon Wud 9th, (Tuesday).

(True translation.)

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

Enclosure No. 2, to Government Letter, No. 58 of 1845.

Accusation against Brijlal; No. 1.

THIS is an accusation by Sheikh Nooroodeen, late karbharee of Mangrole, that Brijlal received from him at Mangrol, in Jet or Asar 1895, the sum of 700 korees.

Nooroodeen swears to going to the chubootra, thence sending a sepahee to fetch Ruseeddas, to obtaining the money there in the morning, to their returning thence together to Mehnan Ismalls, Brijlal's lodgings, and there Ruseeddas giving him the money in the inner room up stairs, to not having taken up any but this 700 korees from the chubootra, which was at one time, and would have been in one entry.

The Mangrol complaint against Nooroodeen shows three entries; one of 5,000 on Shrawunwud 5th, one of 500 on Asarshood 2d, and one of 1,000 on Bhadurwa wud 2d; all in 1895.

Russeddas swears, that afternoon Nooroodeen told him to get the money, that he went alone for it to the chobootra in the evening, that he kept it all night, and took it to Nooroodeen's house in the morning, whence they two went to Brijlal's and gave it to him, on the open terrace, up stairs.

The contradictions in the evidence are, on such matters, as, in my opinion, to destroy all credit to the accuser and his witness, and the entry in the Mangrol complaint of the receipts by Nooroodeen from the chubootra in 1895, in which this sum is omitted, appears to me, with the contradictions in evidence, decisive disproof.

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

Accusations against Brijlal, No. 1.

Sheikh Nooroodeen is called, and on solemn affirmation deposes as follows:

In 1895, Brijlal, on Captain Aston's order, came to Mangrol to inquire into some dispute between the Durbar and Babajee Buchajee. At that time the Durbar gave him 700 korees, which Ruseeddas delivered to him in my presence.

I do not think that this complaint was ever made to Captain Jacob; certainly not by Mangrol.

Question. In what month was this?—*Answer.* I do not recollect, but think it was in Jet or Asar.

Where was Brijlal staying at the time?—In Mehman Ismal's huweelee, where we gave the money.

Who gave you the money?—The Durbar gave a verbal order to the mootsuddee of the chubootra, named Ramjee Barbhya, and I went and sat at the chubootra and sent for Ruseeddas, into whose hands Ramjee paid the money; we did not give any receipt for it.

At what time were you at the chubootra?—About 8 A. M.

When Ruseedas had come, how long did you stay there?—About two gurrees.

Where did you go thence?—To Brijlal's mookam, with Ruseeddas.

Were any other persons with you?—No; the places are close together, about 100 or 150 yards.

Where did you meet Brijlal?—In the upper storey, in the inner room.

Were any persons with him?—No; a sepahee was with him when we entered, but he was sent away; there were people in his cooking place, near at hand, but I don't know who.

Who gave the money?—Russeeddas.

What conversation was carried on?—None but about the money.

Why was the money given?—In order to obtain an impartial report in the business with Babajee Buchajee, and not to write that the Durbar was in fault; this was told him, and he said that he would forward any letter from the Durbar, and would write a report himself.

Whom did you send from the chubootra to call Ruseeddas?—A sepahee of mine, whose name I don't remember; he met him in the babar.

Where did you go on leaving Brijlal's lodging?—Russeeddas and I continued together for 10 or 20 paces, when I went home separately.

Did Ramjee Barbhya know why the money was given to Ruseeddas?—He knew it was for Brijlal, and I fancy wrote it as such in his chopra.

Note.—Here is a mistake corrected at the close.
(signed) *A. M.*

Note.—In the Durbar complaint of 1898 it is written,

Asar Shood 3d	200 korees	From the chubootra.
Asar Shood 13th	500 „	

Brijlal has nothing to ask Nooroodeen on this.

Given on solemn affirmation before me, this 14th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

15 April 1845.

Nooroodeen called, and re-examined.

In 1895, besides this 700 korees, did you take up any other money from the chubootra?—I do not remember doing so, but I certainly did not get any other sum of 700 korees in Jet or Asar. I might have got articles for my building, but certainly not any ready money.

If you did not take 700 korees, how was that sum entered as a complaint against you?—It is probably this sum, as I took no other at that time.

Then how is it that this is entered against you on the 3d and 13th Asar Sood, when you state that you took it up at once?—This could not be the item, as I took it at once; it may have been given to Munohur, Jemadar Bajkhan's vakeel; but this was not 700, but 400 korees.

While this complaint was made against you for another sum, how is it that the 700 to Brijlal escaped notice?—Perhaps it was known that it was given to Brijlal, and therefore not entered; whatever I took, even with the Durbar's pleasure, was made a subject of complaint against me.

The articles you stated you gave to Bhugwanlal at Porebunder were made subjects of complaint against you by Mangrol, why should this be omitted?—It may have been in the item of 22,000 korees, for which the complaint was made against me.

Taken on solemn affirmation before me, this 15th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

This examination was caused by my mistaking the entries of 200 and 500 korees in the Durbar complaint for Asar Sood 1895, instead of 1897, the proper date; but among the complaints by the Durbar in 1898 there is one of 6,500 korees taken by Nooroodeen in 1895, from the chubootra, made up of 5,000 korees on Shrawun wud 5th. Korees on Asar Shood 3d and Bhadurwa wud 2d, 1,000, so as that the examination is still relevant.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Accusations against Brijlal, No. 1.

Russeeddas Kuleanjee deposes on solemn affirmation:

Question. Nooroodeen has stated that in 1895 you gave to Brijlal 700 korees; state the particulars?—*Answer.* Nooroodeen and I went to Brijlal's, at Ismal's hewelee; he was sitting below, and we called him up stairs, and gave them to him.

Whence had you obtained these korees?—From the chabootra, from Ramjee Buneea; I got them from him in the evening, and went next morning, about eight o'clock, and gave them to Brijlal.

Who kept the korees during the night?—I did.

Did Nooroodeen go with you to the chubootra for the money?—No, I went by myself.

Who told you to go and get the money?—Nooroodeen told me, afternoon, and I went and got the money at the time of lighting the lamp in the evening.

When did you meet Nooroodeen before you went to pay the money to Brijlal?—At Nooroodeen's; I went there in the morning.

Did you go direct from Nooroodeen's to Brijlal's?—Yes.

On leaving Brijlal's, where did you go?—I went home; Nooroodeen went to the Durbar.

Where did Nooroodeen tell you to get the money from the chubootra?—In his own house.

When you went to Brijlal's, were any others with you?—Some sepahees.

How far apart are Nooroodeen's house and Ismal's huwelee?—About 300 paces.

When you first saw Brijlal at his lodging, who were sitting with him?—His mehta; I don't remember his name.

Did you give Ramjee any receipt for the money?—No; it was entered in the Durbar account, with the choobootra.

Who carried the money from Nooroodeen's to Brijlal's?—I did.

When did you give it over to Nooroodeen?—I gave to Brijlal, up stairs.

Where were you sitting up stairs?—On the terrace; it is open to the sky.

Is there any room up stairs?—Yes, one.

Who were sitting in it?—No one.

Is the money entered in the chubootra books to be given to Brijlal?—I do not know; I told Ramjee it was for him.

Did you give Ramjee a written order for the money?—No; I told him it was Nooroodeen's order.

Brijlal has no questions to put.

Given on solemn affirmation before me, this 14th day of April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Brijlal's Statement on Accusation No. 1.

I think, in April 1839, Captain Aston ordered me to go to Mangrol, to inquire into the dispute between the Durbar and Babajee. I went there, and stayed in Ismal Mehman's

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

hawalee. Nothing, however, was done in it; no inquiry was made; and I was ordered to Ajuk on a boundary dispute. I went there, and the rain came on, so the ground being under water that could not be done, and I returned to Mangrol. Babajee Buchajee had some disease in one of his legs, and the rain made it virulent, and in consequence no business was done. This was the first time I had been to Mangrol. I knew no one there, and had never seen Nooroodeen before. As to the 700 korees, he can tell whether he received it; I did not. Cholera became prevalent at Mangrol, and I left, having got leave, and returned to my duty at Wudal.

Given before me, this 14th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Enclosure No. 3, to Government Letter, No. 58 of 1845.

Accusation against Brijlal, No. 2.

This is an accusation against Brijlal by Nooroodeen, for having, in 1897, in Joonaghur, received from him a piece of gold and two or three gold mohurs, weighing 20 gudeeanas and two wals.

Nooroodeen swears that, in 1897, he, with Ladha Sungwee, gave to Brijlal gold weighing 20 gudeeanas and two wals, in his lodging at Meer Isak's house; that Ladha Sungwee did not sit down, and went away immediately.

Ladha Sungwee swears to giving the gold to Nooroodeen; to his giving it to Brijlal; to his sitting in the room in company with them, and some time afterwards.

There is a discrepancy between the two, as to the sitting before and after Brijlal's departure.

The gold is not entered in the complaint by Mangrol against Nooroodeen in 1898; and though an entry in it is only conclusive against him, I think the absence of an entry of it, when, as he says, everything was raked up against him, is very conclusive in favour of any one else not having received it. How far the nature of his evidence on the two other accusations may affect his credibility, as this is also to be considered, and it must not be forgotten that the object of the alleged bribe was not in the slightest degree obtained. I do not consider the accusation proved by credible witnesses.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Accusation against Brijlal, No. 2.

Nooroodeen, on solemn affirmation, deposes:

In 1897, on a complaint from Joonaghur, Mr. Blane had directed the sequestration of the chubootra of Mangrol. Hearing this, I went to Hubeeb Khan, and said, "I will arrange matters with you in one month. Write to Mr. Blane that sequestration is unnecessary." He gave me the paper, and I sent it off; but in the meantime Brijlal had received the order, and was preparing to start. I told him to stay one or two days for the answer from Rajkote, but he refused, saying he would go, and that I could read the order when it came. I then gave him a bit of gold and two or three ashrafees, altogether 20 gudeeanas and two wals, that he should not lengthen out the business, but remove as soon as the order should be received. When the order came I sent it to Mangrol, and he immediately (about two or three days after) came away.

Q. In what month was this?—*A.* At the end of the Hoolee.

Where did you get the gold?—From Ladha Sungwee, in Joonaghur, in my own name; but I promised him credit with the Durbar. He was the Mangrol chubootra walla; it will have been, probably, entered in my name on his books.

Where did you meet Ladha Sangwee when you asked for the gold?—He had come, as customary, to my lodging, and I asked him for it; and he went away and returned with it. This was about half past 11 or 12 o'clock in the day. When he returned, Brijlal was sitting with me; and I took the gold from him in his (Brijlal's) presence, and gave it to him.

Where were you sitting at the time?—Upstairs, in the room on the right from the stairs.

Were any other persons sitting there at the time?—No, not inside with us.

After giving the gold, how long did you then stay there?—Ladha Sungwee did not sit down, but gave me the gold, and went and sat outside, and Brijlal went away immediately.

Could Ladha Sungwee see you give him the gold?—Yes; he was standing outside, but looking in.

When Brijlal had gone, did Ladha Sungwee come in to you?—No, he went away.

How often did Brijlal visit you while you were that time at Joonaghur?—Once; and I visited him also once.

Brijlal has no questions to put.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Examined by the Political Agent.

How can you prove that Brijlal came to your lodging at Meer Isack's?—Ladha Sungwee saw him, and the men who were with Brijlal will know; but I am not acquainted with them. There were several other men with me, but none of them are intelligent enough to know whether he came or not, for many Nagurs used to visit me at that time.

Can you prove that you went and visited Brijlal at that time?—Yes; the people who were with me can speak to it.

Mention names?—One intelligent man with me was Samut Soomra, now at Porebuneder. I cannot remember any others; and they were Sebundees, who will not know anything about it. No confidential man was with me at the time.

Given on solemn affirmation before me, this 14th day of April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Nooroodeen examined by Brijlal.

Q. When you came to my house, where did we sit?—*A.* Inside the outer gate; on the left hand there was a slight building, since destroyed; we sat there.

Were there any buildings in progress?—There may have been behind, but not where I could see.

My house is on the road, did you see workmen?—I came by the other road, and did not think about it.

Sworn on solemn affirmation before me, this 14th day of April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

15th April.

Nooroodeen called and examined.

When you complained to Captain Jacob against Brijlal in 1898, did you state this?—No; I did not make any complaint.

When Captain Jacob asked you about what was going on between the Zubtee Mehta and Durbar, why did you not mention it?—Captain Jacob did not ask me if any bribes had been given, and I made no complaint of any.

Given on solemn affirmation before me, this 15th day of April.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Accusation against Brijlal.

Ludha Sungwee, on solemn affirmation, deposes.

Question. Did you, in 1897, give anything to Brijlal?—*Answer.* No, I did not by my hand; I brought what Shekh Nooroodeen gave.

What was it?—A piece of bullion and two or three gold mohurs, altogether 19 ½ gudeeanas, or 19 ½ gudeeanas and 2 wal, or 20 gudeeanas and 2 wal; I cannot exactly remember.

When was this?—I think in Falgoon; it was when he was going on the Mangrol sequestration.

Where did you give the gold to Noorooden?—In Meer Isak's huwelee on the covered terrace. I went up, and Nooroodeen got up and took it from me. I was at the top of the stairs. He had asked it of me six or seven ghurees before I gave it him, about mid-day.

Who did you get the gold from?—The dhalia (piece of bullion) was with me; I got the other from Chutur Bhooj Kupoorchund; about five gudeeanas, a little more.

In whose name did he enter it?—In mine.

Did you ever pay for it?—Yes, I did; I believe by order on Purmanund Kullian.

Did you ever get paid by Nooroodeen?—No, it is still due, I believe, on his account; but it may be on the Durbar account.

When Brijlal got up and left, how long did you stay with Nooroodeen?—Some two or three ghurees, I believe; but I sat with them certainly.

Did you sit there whilst Brijlal was with him?—I came after Brijlal, and went up and sat with them.

How long did Brijlal sit while you were sitting there?—Short time only; I sat there after him.

When you came, did you give the gold to Nooroodeen sitting or standing?—I was standing, and Nooroodeen got up and took it from me.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others

Did you sit by Nooroodeen or Brijlal?—I did not sit near either; about two yards from both of them, on one side.

What was the conversation?—Nothing was spoken before me.

Who came and called you the day you gave the gold?—No one; I went there as usual, and he said he wanted it.

Brijlal has no questions to put.

Given on solemn affirmation before me, this 14th day of April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

Accusation against Brijlal.

Brijlal states:

I was Zubtee Mehta on Kumaloodeen Khan's share of bantwa in 1840, when Captain Jacob ordered me to sequestrate Pojod, which was in farm to Ladha Sungwee. I arrived there at mid-day, and Ladha Sungwee's muckranees opposed me, and would not allow me to come into the town; so I went back to Manawundar and reported the occurrence, and a mohsul was ordered on Mangrol; but a paper was written agreeing to remove the men, and suwars were sent to me, and I went and removed the makranees, on which account Ladha Sungwee is my enemy. As to Nooroodeen, in 1842 Nooroodeen made many complaints of me to Captain Jacob, who called me to Bheelka, and having heard my account of affairs, sent me back to Mangrol from Mendurda. Captain Jacob then came there and inquired, and found no fault with me. From that time he has been my enemy; he did not make this complaint at that time. I did not even see him at Joonaghur at the time he mentions.

Given before me, this 14th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

Enclosure No. 4, in Government Letter, No. 58 of 1845

Accusation against Brij Lal, No. 3.

This is an accusation against Brij Lal, by Shekh Nooroodeen, for having, in 1897, received from him a gold chain of 15 gudeeanas, and a gold ring of 5 gudeeanas.

Nooroodeen swears that Malik Mahmood brought him the chain from the Durbar, and that the ver was given on his own account; that the ver was made up by Juggun by his order the day before, and that he did not give any gold to him to make it of; that he never saw it till Juggur gave it to him in presence of Brij Lal, and that it had never been in his house or possession; that after Brij Lal's departure Ruseeddas and he sat a long time, and that pan sooparee was brought up by one of his servants; he thinks the ver had a pattern.

Ruseeddas swears that he saw Nooroodeen take the chain and the ver from his waistband, and give them to Brig Lal; that he had seen the ver, a plain one, in Nooroodeen's possession months before; that at the time of giving no fourth person was present; that no one came up while they were sitting; that Juggun came up with pan sooparee while they were sitting; that when Brij Lal left he accompanied him part of the way, and then went home.

Juggun deposes, that Nooroodeen gave him gold; that he with it made a ring about a month before; that by Nooroodeen's order given at the time, he got it from his (Nooroodeen's) wife, and took it up stairs, where, in his presence, it was given, with a chain given by Noorooden to Brij Lal; that he did not take up pan sooparee.

I conclude that the numerous contradictions of the witnesses about the ring invalidate the whole accusation, and therefore believe Brig Lal to be innocent of it.

(signed) *A Malet,* Political Agent.

Accusation against Brij Lall, No. 3.

Nooroodeen deposes, on solemn affirmation, on the Chabootra, and I having failed to settle with Hubeeb Khan in one month; Brij Lal was there on the duty, and the Durbar sent me, by Malik Mahmood, a gold chain of 15 gudeeanas, and I had a ring of five gudeemas. I sent and called Brij Lal to my house, where I gave them to him at the top of the house on the covered-in terrace; Ruseeddas was with me; I think I had sent him to call Brij Lal; Juggunath was also present; he brought the ring; he stood on the stairs.

Question. Did you give the articles to Brij Lal, or did Ruseeddas and Juggunath?—*Answer.* I gave both the things to him myself.

Was

Was this chain entered in the complaints by the Durbar against you in 1898?—I think it was, but am not sure. Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Note.—The complaint is sent for, and in it is entered a chain of 15 guadeeanas by the hand of Mulik Mahmood.

Did Jugunath come before or after Brij Lal?—After.

Was the ring your own property?—Yes; he said he had been at expenses in religious ceremonies at Joonaghur; so I gave it him.

Nooroodeen re-called and re-examined.

Where did Jugunath get the ver?—He will have made it up with gold.

Who was it made for, you or him?—It was made for Brij Lal; whether he had the gold for it, or Ruseeddas gave it to him, I do not know.

When was it made, and by whose order?—I ordered it that day, or the day before.

Had you seen it before you got it from him to give it to Brij Lal?—No; it was with him. I asked him for it, and he said it was about 5 gudeeanas.

Was there any patten on it?—Yes; at the two ends of the wire, I think; but I gave it as I got it from him; I had not seen it before.

You before stated that you had a ver of five gudeeanas; now you say it was with Juggunath; how is this?—You will have written it. But what I meant was, that Juggun had it, and brought it up to us. The ring was not in my house or possession before that.

Who did you pay for the ver?—Either Ruseeddas or Juggun will have given the gold, and entered it to my name.

You say, that Juggun stood on the stair and gave it you: did you get up and take it from him?—No, I reached out my arm and took it.

How long did you sit?—Ruseeddas and I sat a long time after Brij Lal, who staid a short time only.

Did you give him pan souparee?—Yes.

Who brought it up?—One of my chokras; I don't remember his name.

Brij Lal has no questions to put.

Taken on solemn affimation before me, this 14th day of April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Russedas deposes on solemn affirmation.

Question. In 1897, did you see anything given to Brij Lal?—*Answer.* Yes; one day about 4 P.M., I went to Brij Lal's lodging, and called him to Shekjee's house; they went up to the covered terrace on the top of the house: they had pan sooparee. I also went up, and Shekjee took a chain and ring of gold from his waistband, and gave them to him.

Were you three then alone, or were any others with you?—We three alone; not any one else; no other could see.

Do you know where he got the chain and ring?—No, I saw him take them from his waistband.

Did you sit long?—No, a very short time; and when the things were given, he got up and went away.

Did any one come up while you were sitting there?—No.

Re-called and examined.

When Brij Lall went, did you go home with him?—No, I accompanied him as far as the Chabootra, when he went his way, I mine.

Who brought up the pan sooparee?—Juggun; he brought it up and put it down.

How far were you sitting from the stairs?—About three haths; we could not see from this, nor reach to them; Shekjee was nearest.

Could he take the pan sooperee from any one standing on the stairs?—Yes, he could; stretching out his arm.

Had you before seen the ver given to Brij Lal?—I had seen it on Shekjee's fingers, and his son's.

Was there any pattern on it?—No, it was a plain ver.

Do you know where he had it made?—No.

Do you know when it was made?—No.

How long do you remember it in his possession?—I had seen it with him six or seven months before.

Brij Lal has no questions to ask.

Given in solemn affirmation before me, this 14th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Juggunath deposes on solemn affirmation.

Question.—Do you know whether in 1897, Nooroodeen gave anything to Brij Lal?—*Answer.*—Yes. In Mangrol Brij Lal came to Shekjee's house. About 4 P.M., Ruseeddas and Shekjee were sitting with Brij Lal in the upper story, on the terrace between the two rooms, it has a terrace over it. I went and gave a gold ring to Shekjee; and he gave it and a chain to Brij Lal together, as soon as I gave him the ring.

Where did you get the ring?—I received it from Shekjee's wife, by order from him given as he was going up stairs.

Where was the ring made?—I had it made by Nooroodeen's order; he gave me a piece of gold to make up; Bheem Sonee made it.

How long before it was given to Brij Lal was it made up?—I cannot remember; but believe it was about one month; certainly not three months.

Was it of any pattern?—No, only a plain ver (a wire twisted spirally) of three twists.

How long did you sit up stairs?—I did not sit; I merely gave it to Shekjee as he sat, and then went away.

Did Shekjee give it before you, or put it about his own person?—He gave it immediately to Brij Lal, without putting it either into his turban or waistband.

Who took up the pan sooperee?—I do not know.

Given before me on solemn affirmation, this 15th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Pol. Agent.

Accusation, No. 3.

Brij Lal states, I know nothing whatever about this; I can say nothing at all on it.

Given before me this 14th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Pol. Agent.

No. 5299.

No. 2711 of 1845.—Political Department.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 15th ultimo, No. 58, submitting your proceeding connected with an inquiry, which you had instituted into certain charges of bribery and corruption, noted in the margin,* preferred against Brij Lal Mondowjie, a karkoon on your establishment, by Sheekh Nowroodeen, late karbaree of the Mangrolee state.

* *See* below.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you that the contradictions of the witnesses are of so serious a nature, the Governor in Council concurs with you in acquitting the accused of the charges, and considers it very probable that they originate in a conspiracy, having in view the object supposed by you.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle,
31 May 1845.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Chief Secretary.

No. 5482.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 9 June 1845.

General, No. 293.—Government, No. 76 of 1845.—Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

WITH reference to the last examination of Noorooden at his own house, forming the last of the papers in Enclosure, No. 4, to my letter No. 56 of the 12th ultimo, I have the honour to inform you, that having no reason to think that any other

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* First Charge. That he, Brijlal, when at Mangrolee in 1838–39, received as a bribe from the accuser, Nooroodeen, the sum of 700 korees.

Second Charge. That he, Brijlal, when at Joonaghur in 1840–41, received as a bribe from Nooroodeen, two or three gold mohurs and a piece of gold bullion.

Third Charge. That he, Brijlal, in 1840–41, received as a bribe from Nooroodeen, a gold chain and a gold ring.

Charges of Corraption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

other than the usual course of attempt to throw doubt on books would be pursued by Nooroodeen, I did not think it worth while to delay my report, in consequence of the latter part of his deposition.

2. But on the 15th April, I received the enclosed petition, stating that the bullocks, not having been given till the end of May, the entry of the payment of the money previous to that time was evidence of its falsity.

3. My neglect to determine the time of the transaction in the first inquiry laid it open to this objection, but I did not know at that time that Nooroodeen had been at Rajkote twice in that year; the necessity therefore for it did not occur to me.

4. I now transmit the evidence, &c. on this accusation, with my remarks and opinion.

5. I also send additional evidence on accusation No. 11, forming enclosure No. 7 to the same letter, from Nooroodeen's former evidence. I was under the impression that he did not know where Yakoockhan was at present, and therefore closed the case without him; I now send his deposition, with my opinion, which on both cases is favourable to Bhugwanlal.

I have, &c.

Kattywar Pol. Agency, Rajkote, 3 May 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Enclosure No. 1, to Government Letter No. 76, of the 3d May 1845.

Petition from *Noorooden*, Chytr Shood, 8th (April 15th 1845.)

Bhugwanlal has in his own handwriting entered in his book that he gave to Shekh Noorooden for bullocks 250 korees, on the 8th Falgoon Wud, through my patel. This is altogether false, because on Falgoon wud 8th I was at Mangrol, and the bullocks were then with me, and on Chytur Shood 4th (April 6th 1840), I came to Rajkot, as will be seen by Nuthoo Bhoganee's accounts, and at the end of Wyshak (about the end of May,) I gave the bullocks to him, and can show proof of it in their food; from those proofs it will appear that his statement is false; this is a fact, and is written for your information; such a man in such a situation, acting in this way, should receive some animadversion from Government.

(signed) *Nooroodeen.*

(True translation.)

(signed) A. Malet, Political Agent.

Enclosure No. 2, to Government Letter, No. 76, dated 3 May 1845.

Remarks on the Evidence and Opinions.

This is an accusation arising out of No. 1, forwarded in my letter No. 56, of the 12th April, and is to the effect that the bullocks having been given to Bugwan Lal at the end of May 1840, his entry of the payment on the 8th Fulgoon Wud (31st March 1840) must be false. It was therefore necessary to inquire when the bullocks were given. Nooroodeen was at Rajkote twice during that year; the first time he arrived on Shrawun Wud 12th (4th September 1839), and, including a stay at Balacharee and Jooreea, remained till the end of Kartik (about the 4th or 6th December); the second time, he arrived on the 4th Chytur Shood (6th April 1840), and remained till the end of Wyshak or beginning of Jet (the end of May or beginning of June), and this is the time he states the bullocks to have been given. If they were so, the exact time must have been between the 5th and 11th of Wyshak Wud (21st and 27th of May), as Bugwan Lal left Rajkote for Joonaghur on Jest Shood 1st (the 1st of June).

Nooroodeen states that on his first visit to Rajkote he borrowed bullocks from Mangrol, which reached Rajkote before he went to Ballacheree on Assoo Shood 2d (9th October 1839), which he brought back with him from that place on Kartik Shood 5th (11th November 1839), and which remained at Rajkote until Ata Hoosen left for Mangrol on the 5th or 6th Margshur Shood (11th or 12th December 1839), when he brought them away with him. He further states that the second time he came to Rajkote, he brought with him a pair of Durbar bullocks, which were given to Bugwan Lal about the 5th or 11th Wyshak Wud (the 21st or 27th May). Nuthoo Modee's accounts show nothing for the feed of bullocks during Nooroodeen's first visit, except on the 1st Margshur (7th December), five seer of goor with oilcake and grass to Ata Hoosen. During Nooroodeen's second visit, the accounts show a pretty regular quantity of bullocks' food up to the 14th Wyshak Wud (30th May 1840).

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Nurbheeram Vakeel, dismissed from Mangrol employ with Nooroodeen, deposes that Bhugwan Lal's bullocks are those which Nooroodeen brought with him on his second visit; he differs in his evidence relative to the colour of the first pair from Nooroodeen.

Ruseeddas deposes that the bullocks which were given to Bhugwan Lal were not those which Nooroodeen had on his first visit; he differs as to their colour from Nooroodeen and Nurbheeram.

Deoochund does not recollect any of the circumstances.

Ata Hoosen deposes to borrowed bullocks coming from Mangrol before Nooroodeen's departure to Balacheree; to their colour, "moojra," which differs from Nooroodeen. That while with him he got their food from Nuthoo Modee for five or six days; he differs not in this from the accounts. That the bullocks brought at the second visit were given to Bhugwan Lal.

Amrut Lal deposes to Bhugwan Lal's bullocks being the same that were with Nooroodeen at Balacheree.

Hurrepursad deposes that the bullocks Bhugwanlal Lal has are of the same colour as those with Nooroodeen at Balacheree.

Muncha Patel deposes that he was called to look at the bullocks that Bhugwan Lal now has during the cold season.

Jethee Modee's accounts show a regular supply of bullocks' food to Bhugwan Lal from Kartik Shood 8th (14th November 1839) up to Falgoon Wud 2d (20th March 1840). There is no entry of bullocks' food in Wyshak Wud or Jet Shood (the end of May or beginning of June). Bhugwan Lal's account has the entry dated Falgoon Wud 8th (26th March) of payment for the bullocks. He states the reason of the delay in the entry. He also produces Wullabhye Moosajee's accounts, in which are entered the food for his milch cattle, and in it nothing appears for the bullocks, either at the time he states that he bought them, or at the time Nooroodeen deposes to having given them.

Bhugwan Lal comments on the evidence, and the reason for the persons giving it; he also explains the cause of the irregular entries in his accounts.

For the reasons given in my former report on this subject, I rely but little on any of the evidence, and do not feel called on to make any further remarks on it. I take, therefore, the Modee's books, and endeavour to show how they bear on the question.

Nuthoo Moodee's accounts show no regular entries for bullocks' food during Nooroodeen's first visit to Rajkate, although it is admitted that he had a pair, at least from the time he returned from Balacheree till he went to Mangrol, about 25 days; it is clear, therefore, that he might have had the bullocks, as Bhugwanlal states, without any entry for their food in his books. The entry for goor, two days after Nooroodeen's departure, bears the inference I have noted in the margin of Bhugwan Lal's defence, that it was given in consequence of bullocks coming off a long march, and food, it is seen, was entered to the 5th, when Ata Hoosen left.

The entries in Nuthoo Moodee's accounts during Nooroodeen's second visit are such as would be for a pair of bullocks fed on oil cakes up to Chytur Wud 13th, from which time the increase is accounted for by his having a milch buffaloe; but this increase is carried on up to Wyshak Wud 14th (30th May), while, according to his evidence, the bullocks were given to Bhugwan Lall not later than the 10th, it is not easy to say what weight should be given for his reasons for this.

It appears, however, equally probable that the milch buffaloe was stopped on the 14th, just previous to his departure, and that hired bullocks to aid his own on the journey were obtained next day, which brought up the food again to 15 seers.

Jetha Modee's accounts show a regular supply of food to Bhugwan Lall for bullocks, from the eighth Kartik Wud (14 November 1839), 24 days after Nooroodeen's return from Balachere, up to Falgoon Wud 2d (20 March 1840), the time of his family's departure to Joonaghur, with whom he says the bullocks went.

I do not see any reason to doubt these entries; there is no appearance of newness of ink, and the leaves are certainly part of the original chopra; but there is another circumstance which tells also in Bungwan Lal's favour; at the time asserted by Nooroodeen of the gift of the bullocks there is no entry whatever either in Jether Modee's or Wullabhye Moosajee's chopra of any food given to Bhugwan Lal for bullocks, though other things are regularly entered; in my mind this is decisive of their correctness, for though new entries may be made on blank leaves without being detected, no leaves could be abstracted, or erasures made, without easy detection; and certainly neither of these have been done. Wullabhye Moosajee's accounts contain the food for the milch cattle, and the supply is regular, as agreed on.

As to Bhugwan Lal's account-book, and the date of the entry, it may very well have happened as he states it; certainly it may be thought that if it had been now entered to deceive, he would have taken care that the date was not the time when Nooroodeen was absent, and which could have been ascertained with the greatest ease, from my own knowledge of him. I can state that his accuracy in recollection of dates in matters of business is usually surprising, and constitutes one great source of his usefulness as a public servant.

I do not see anything in the documents now forwarded to change my opinion expressed in my letter No. 56, except, perhaps, that I am more confident of his innocence of the charge.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Accusation No. 1.

Nooroodeen's Bullocks given to Bhugwan Lal.

On Solemn Affirmation:

I left Mangrol about the 13th of Falgoon Wud 1896 (31 March 1840), the Durbar having at that very time given me a pair of bullocks, and I arrived at Rajkote on Chytur Sood 4th (6th April); the bullocks were with me; at this time Mr. Blanc and Captain Jacob were here within a few days (five or ten) of the end of Whyshak (31 May). I gave them to Bhugwan Lal; a few days after I had given them, the two gentlemen left Rajkote for Joonaghur, on account of the death of Nuwab Buhadur Khan, and Bhugwan Lal with them; and a few days after I went also, about the full moon, or the very beginning of Jet Shood; I hired a pair of bullocks from a ghanchee, through Sepahee Dulloo, a servant of Rajkote, which I took to Jetpoor, and there hired others, as the ganchee got fever.

Q. Did you come to Rajkote before Falgoon?—*A.* No; I came in Ashar or Shrawun 1896 (11 July to 7 September), and staid till Kartik, and I and Ruseeddass and Bhooj fell sick; and Captain Jacob was going to Balacheree, so I sent to the Durbar for a rekla, being sick, and the Durbar sent me Deeoojee Waljee's rekla and bullocks. I got better, so rode; but Ruseeddas, &c. rode in the rekla to Balacheree; they left in a hired garee to go to Mangrol, and I came back to Rajkote with Captain Jacob, bringing the garee; I staid here all Kartik, and on the 27th of it left, leaving the garee and bullocks here for Ata Hoosen; and he, after the Eed (8th December), came with the rekla and bullocks to Mangrol; the bullocks were red, one with white chutka (one or more white spots). I got to Mangrol in two days, hastening for the Eed.

Q. Who will know that this was Deoojee's cart and bullocks?—*A.* All Mangrol; I don't suppose the Rajkote people will know.

Who will know that the bullocks now with Bugwan Lal were with you in Wyshak?—Ata Hoosen, Deoochund, perhaps Nurbeeram, then Mangrol vakeel, will know, perhaps the modee will know; I told Jemadar Madoo that I wanted hired bullocks, as I had given away my own; he was going for a marriage, and referred me to Dulloo.

Taken on solemn affirmation before me, the 18th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

21 April.—*Nooroodeen* examined by Bhugwan Lal.

Q. You state that you returned from Balacheeree, and staid here some days, and then went to Mangrol; in that time whence did you get food for the bullocks?—*A.* If any was brought, it will be in Nuthoo Moodee's books, but it is probable that green grass was got for them.

Was it a good season for grass, or a bad one?—It was a bad year, but it had rained before I came here, and green grass was obtainable, so that oil-cake would not be given, but dal may have been given.

Where was the expense entered?—Either from Nuthoo Modee, if I got it from him, or from Sunganee Heerjee Deooraj. I might have got ready money, but chiefly the expense for grass is from the modee.

You have stated that the bullocks were given to me five or ten days before the end of Wyshak, and that Mr. Blane two or five after left for Joonaghur; but there is no difference in the expense of the bullocks until Wyshak Wud 14th; how do you account for this?—I have said I gave them a few days before I left, but I had a milch buffaloe belonging to Deookurn Kusbin, and the food for all might have been mixed up together, and the servants may have taken the same as usual; when I left, I hired a ganchee's bullocks, and had to feed them; perhaps they might have got it, which would account for the 15 seers.

The modee's accounts are shown to Nooroodeen; he accounts for the absence of entries for expense of bullocks in Kartik, by stating that his camel-men and Ganchee Hagee used to go and cut grass, for it was the fast, and they had the option of cutting grass or fasting, and that when bullocks got green grass, kor is not usually given, and that at this time he had but one horse, but that when he sent for the rekla, he sent for another horse for Ahmed Khan.

Taken on solemn affirmation before me, the 21st April 1845.

22d April.—Nooroodeen is called, and shown Bhugwan Lal's explanation of the entries and date in his account-book.

He states that the time that elapsed between the stated payment and the entry, and no daily account from which it was entered being forthcoming, prevents any trust in it.

Jetha Modee's account-book is shown to him, in which there are entries of bullocks' food to Bhugwan Lal from Kartik Sood 8th till Falgoon Wud 2d, 1896; he says he probably had other bullocks at that time; and that as to no entry being made of food to bullocks in Waceshak, the time he states the bullocks were given, he has no faith in the accounts of the modee; that he trusts his own modee, as a respectable man, keeping accounts of many Talookdars, but not a petty man like this; he also says that the bullocks being with Bhugwan Lal so short a time in Waceshak, he probably fed them from his own house expense.

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Accusation No. 1.

18th April.—On solemn affirmation, *Nuthoo Kheemjee*, Modee of Rajkote.

Q. Do you remember if Nooroodeen came to Rojkote in Ashar or Shrawun of 1896, (11th July to 7th September)?—*A.* (*Refers to his books.*) Yes, he came here on Shrawun Wud 12, (September 4th), and remained in Rajkote till Asoo Shood 2d (October 9th).

During that period had he a rekla and bullocks?—I do not find that I furnished him with any food for bullocks during that time, so I suppose he had not.

When did Nooroodeen return, and how long did he stay?—On Kartik Shood 5th, Sunday 10th November, and staid till Kartik Wud 30th, Friday 6th December.

Had he bullocks with him then?—I did not furnish him with food peculiar to bullocks, and the expense for grass is not specified, as money was given to him: sometimes one koree, sometimes half korees.

After Nooroodeen went, did you give food for bullocks to Ata Hoosen?—Yes; on Margshur Shood 1st; December 7th I gave him five seer goor for bullocks, and some grass; 2d, one koree for grass; 4th, one koree for grass; 5th, one koree for oil-cake and grass; then the account closes.

Do you know if Nooroodeen came to Rajkote in Falgoon Wud or Chyter Shood 1896?—Yes; it is entered in my books. He came Chytur Shood 4th; April 5th (Sunday), and staid till Jet Shood 3d; Tuesday, June 2d.

Had he bullocks during this period?—Yes; I furnished him with food for bullocks from the 4th Chyter Shood up to Jest Sood 2d, on which day he got 15 seer of oil-cake; the same also on Monday; and seven and a half seer Sunday. Previous to that, from Whyshak Sood, he had 20 seers daily.

How was the consumption reduced from 20 to 7½ seers?—I do not know.

Do you know what bullocks Nooroodeen had at this time?—No, I do not at all remember them, nor the reckla.

Given on solemn affirmation before me, the 18th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Nuthoo Modee.

1896 Kartik Shood 1st, November 7th, 1839.
„ 5th, „ 11th, „ Noorooden came to Rajkote.
1896 Kartik Wud, 13th, December 3d, „ close of account with him.
No mention in this time of bullocks' food.
Margshur Shood 1st, December 7th, Ata Hoosen alone, five seer goor for bullocks, and 10 pice for grass.
Margshur shood, 2d, December 7th, grass, one koree in pice.
„ 4th, - - - grass, one koree in pice.
„ 5th, - - - kor oil cakes and grass, one koree.
Pash Shood 3d, January 7th, 1840, bajree and grass, and his own food.
Falgoon Wud 9th, March 27th, 1840, accounts made up.
Chytur Shood 4th, April 6th, 1840, Noorooden came, kor.
„ 6th, - - - 20 seers.
„ 7th, - - - 10 „
„ 8th, - - - 20 „
„ 10th, - - - 30 „
„ 11th, - - - 30 „
„ 12th, - - - 10 seers for bullocks.
The same quantity daily till Chytur Wud 14th, when 20 seers were given, continuing on the same quantity till Wyshak Wud 1st.
Wyshak Wud 1st, May 17th, 1840, 30 seers.
Wyshak Wud 2d, - - - 20 seers.
The same quantity till Wyshak Wud 15th, when 7½ seers were given.
Jet Shood 1st, - - - - 15 seers.
2d, - - - - 15 seers. Accounts made up.

Accusation No. 1.

Nurbheeram Shunkurram, on solemn affirmation, deposes as follows:

Q. Were you Mangrol Vakeel in St. 1896?—*A.* Yes, and until Noorooden was dismissed, a short while since.

How many times did Nooroodeen come from Mangrol here in that year?—I cannot say exactly; but I know he came here.

Can you remember if he came in Falgoon, or before it?—I cannot remember the exact month; but he was here twice. Once he went to Jooreea; having gone to Balacheeree, I went with him to Balacheeree.

How did you go, on horseback or in garee?—In Nooroodeen's rekla, with Jeewun Ram Bhooj.

Whose

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Whose garee did you go in?—In a garee brought by Nooroodeen; I don't know whose, nor whose the bullocks; I suppose the Durbar's.

Did you return here with Nooroodeen?—Yes, in the same garee, and with the same bullocks.

Do you remember if Nooroodeen took away the cart and bullocks?—He will have taken them away himself.

Did Nooroodeen go before, or after the Eed?—I cannot remember with certainty; but I think there was a talk about his returning quickly for the Eed.

Do you remember if Ata Hoosen went with him, or staid behind?—No.

Do you remember if Nooroodeen brought the cart with him, or sent for it?—No, I cannot.

When did Nooroodeen return here?—I think he came here in Chytur.

Did he bring a cart and bullocks with him?—Yes.

When did he leave this?—I left this for Puttun, in Wyshak, at which time Nooroodeen was here.

Do you remember the bullocks he had the first time with him?—Yes, they were moojra (white, with black or red hairs, grey).

Do you remember the bullocks he had the second time?—Not so well as the first; but I believe they were red.

Have you ever seen them since?—Yes, with Bhugwan Lal; those he now has.

Have you ever seen those he first had since?—No.

How do you know that the bullocks Bhugwan Lal now has are those Nooroodeen had in Chuytur?—I have seen them constantly since, and know them very well; they are not the bullocks Nooroodeen had with him the first visit, but the second.

Taken on solemn affirmation before me, the 18th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Accusation No. 1.

Russeeddass, on solemn affirmation, deposes:

Q. In 1896 did you come here with Nooroodeen?—*A.* I came here in Shrawun of 1895 with him.

How did you come?—On horseback.

Were the cart and bullocks with Nooroodeen?—No; but we all got fever, and he sent to Mangrol for one to take us to Balacheree. It came, and we went in it; but I cannot remember how many days it came here before we left. In it sat I, Jeewun Bhooj, and, I think, Nurbheeram.

Whose were the carts and bullocks?—Deoojee Waljee's, of Mangrol.

Had Nooroodeen any other bullocks?—No.

What colour were the bullocks?—I think they were white (dola), but it is so long since that I cannot remember.

Were the bullocks sent back to Mangrol?—I went to Mangrol from Jooreea; but Nooroodeen came by Rajkote, and the garee was afterwards brought by Ata Hoosen, with those very bullocks.

How do you know these were the bullocks?—They were returned to Deoojee Waljee, and I have seen them since.

Nooroodeen came to Rajkote in Chytur; were you with him?—No, I staid at Mangrol.

Do you know if a cart and bullocks were sent with him?—No, I do not.

Are the bullocks which you knew at Jooreea, those now with Bhugwan Lal?—No; those were Deoojee's, and he had no others.

Given on solemn affirmation before me, the 19th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Accusation No. 1.

Deoochund Ruttunjee, on solemn affirmation, deposes:

Question. Were you at Rajkote with Nooroodeen in 1896?—*Answer.* Yes; Nooroodeen was at Rajkote, and I came here from Mangrol, I think in Chytur or Wyshak.

Do you remember the bullocks he had with him?—It is long since, but I believe he had a garee and bullocks; the cart was a rekla, but I cannot remember the colour of the bullocks; they belonged to the Durbar.

How long did you stay here?—Till the death of the Nawab; when I left with Nooroodeen for Mangrol.

Was the rekla with you?—Yes.

And the bullocks?—I cannot say.

When you travelled to Mangrol, did you go in the cart?—Yes.

The bullocks which left Rajkote with you, did they go as far as Mangrol?—There was another garee, and it is a long time since; I cannot recollect.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Who drove the garee in which you sat?—When Nooroodeen came, I came after in the garee, and a man of Nooroodeen's drove it.

At your return did that man drive it?—I cannot remember.

Did the driver fall sick at Jetpoor?—I do not remember.

Did the same man drive all the way?—I can't remember.

Who sat with you in the garee?—Ata Hoosen.

Did the garreewan who came with you return with you?—I can't remember.

What was the colour of the bullocks that came from Mangrol, and the driver's name?—I don't remember either.

When you reached Mangrol, where did you drive to?—To the mandoee.

Where did the garee and bullocks go to?—I don't know.

The bullocks which returned with you, have you since ever seen them at Mangrol?—I don't recollect.

Did you ever again see in Mangrol the bullocks which came with you from Mangrol to Rajkote?—I don't recollect.

You state that Nooroodeen told you to give evidence on the subject, did he speak to you or anyone else?—I went to visit him, and he told me then to give evidence, and I said I could not do so, as I did not recollect.

What reason did he give you for giving evidence?—He said that I must recollect, as I was in service then, and I said I could not remember.

Did he say anything to influence you?—He may have said it would be for my good to speak the truth.

Did he freshen your recollection of the circumstance?—He told me that he had given the bullocks to Bhugwanlal.

Do you remember whether he did so?—No, and I said I could not speak to what I did not remember.

When did you see at Mangrol the bullocks which Bhugwanlal got from Nooroodeen?—I don't remember.

Were these the bullocks that you brought from, or others?—I don't remember.

Taken on solemn affirmation before me, the 19th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Nooroodeen asked me if I remembered anything about a chundun har given to Goolabraee; I told him I knew nothing about it.

Solemnly affirmed before me, the 19th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Accusation No. 1.

Ata Hoosen, on solemn affirmation, deposes:

Question. Did you come more than once to Rajkote in 1896 with Shekh Nooroodeen?—*Answer.* When I was first employed, I was taken by Nooroodeen to Bacheree, when Captain Jacob was there, thence to Jooreea, and thence here.

Had Nooroodeen a cart and bullocks?—Yes, a rekla open, and two bullocks.

Whence did he get them?—From Mangrol when he got sick, and the people were sick. Ruseeddas got sick at Balacheree; the rest here.

How long before you left for Balacheree did it come?—I cannot say; it is long ago.

What colour were the bullocks?—The colour is called moojra; some think it red and white; but it is called moojra.

When you returned from Joorea were they with you?—Yes.

How long after did you keep them?—Nooroodeen left to go to Mangrol for the Eed, and left the garee and bullocks with me. I passed the Eed, and in two or three days left, and took the cart and bullocks with me, travelling in it myself, and at Mangrol made them over to him; and he ordered that as soon as my things were taken out, they should be returned to the owner.

Where did you get the food for them in Rajkote?—From Nuthoo Modee.

How long did you stay at Mangrol?—Perhaps a month, and then came to Rajkote.

How long after that did Nooroodeen come?—I can't remember; but it was before the Nawab's death some time; perhaps two months.

When he came from Mangrol did he bring a rekla and bullocks with him?—Yes; the bullocks he gave to Bhugwanlal that he has now.

Do you remember when the bullocks were given to Bhugwanlal?—Two or four days before the news of the Nawab's death arrived, I think. We hired cattle to take away our rekla. I travelled in it to Jetpoor. I can't remember whether we took on the same bullocks from thence or others. We went from Jetpoor to Dorajee, and thence to Mangrol, taking the garee with us.

How long before you went did you hire the bullocks?—That day or one before, I think.

Taken on solemn affirmation before me, the 19th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Accusation No. 1.

Amrutlal Amurchund deposes on solemn affirmation:

Question. Do you remember whether Nooroodeen had with him, when he went to Balacheree, the bullocks which Bhugwanlal now has?—*Answer.* Yes; he had these bullocks and an open rekla; he staid at Hureeana in a koombee's place. I was in the Dhurumsala; they were of full size. I saw them twice at Balacheree.

Had he another pair?—I do not know.

Do you remember when Bhugwanlal got them?—No; I left the camp at Purduree, and staid only a few days at Rajkote, and did not meet Nooroodeen there.

When did you return to Rajkote?—In Chytur or Wyshak. I came with Chundursingjee of Gondul, and returned with him; perhaps we staid 15 days.

Had Bhugwanlal these bullocks then?—I do not know; I did not see them in his possession till 1897.

Given on solemn affirmation before me, the 19th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

2d May.—Nooroodeen has no questions to put.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Accusation No. 1.

Hurree Pursad Ambaram, on solemn affirmation, deposes:

Question. Were you with Captain Jacob's suwaree in 1896 at Balacheree and Jooreea?—*Answer.* Yes.

Was Nooroodeen there, and had he a cart and bullocks?—Yes.

What coloured bullocks?—Red.

Did Bhugwanlal get these bullocks from him?—I saw them there; I don't know about Bhugwanlal.

Was it these that Bhugwanlal got from Nooroodeen?—They were the same colour; but I cannot speak with certainty to whether they are the same.

Were they full grown?—No; perhaps four years old.

When did you first see the bullocks after they were Bhugwanlall's?—Not till two years after, when I came back from Rajkote.

Do you know when he first got them?—No.

Given on solemn affirmation before me, the 19th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

2d May.—Nooroodeen has no questions to put.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Accusation No. 1.

Muncha Patell, gareewan of Ramjee, mehta vakeel of Porbunder, on solemn affirmation, deposes:

Question. Do you remember when Bhugwanlal first got his pair of red bullocks?—*Answer.* No, I cannot recollect. I only know that I was sent for to examine them, and that was in the cold weather.

How do you remember it was in the cold weather?—It was after the Dewalee, and before the Hoolee (middle of March).

Were you in the habit of going out with your bullocks in company with them?—No, I only remember going out once in company with them, and I cannot say when that was.

Were these the pair he now has?—Yes.

Given on solemn affirmation before me, the 21st April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Read to Nooroodeen the 2d May; he has questions to put.

Question. In what year did you see the bullocks?—*Answer.* I cannot recollect the year.

Was it very cold or not?—How can I remember. I know it was the cold weather.

Had the bullocks short horns or long?—Perhaps less than one span, or a little more.

Were they broken in?—How should I know?

How old were they?—I cannot say. I was sent to examine them; but I did not know that business.

Given on solemn affirmation before me, the 2d May 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Jeta Modee's Accounts.

Kartik Shood 8th (bullocks' food) dal six paeelees, flour two seer, goor 1½, ghee ¾.
Kartik Shood 9th, dal six paeelees, flour two seer, goor 1½ seer, ghee ¾.
Kartik Shood 10th, dal six paeelees, flour two seer, goor 1½ seer, ghee ¾.
And the same daily till Falgoon Wud 2d.

(True translation.)

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

These accounts on the 2d May are examined by Nooroodeen and his Mehta Juggun, who says that it is not usual to write six columns in a page, and the account in three different places covers the leaf, which is not usual, and is done for the sake of deceiving.

I examined the book with my judicial carkoon, and it shows entries as follows:

Leaf 6, dated Posh Wud 8.	Leaf 17, dated Kartik Wud 1.
„ 7, „ Kartik Wud 3.	„ 23, „ Kartik Wud 6.
„ 12, „ Kartik Wud 1.	„ 24, „ Kartik Wud 6.
„ 13, „ Margshur Shood 8.	„ 27, „ Kartik Wud 11.
„ 14, „ Margshur Wud 9.	„ 29, „ Margshur Wud 3.
„ 16, „ Chytur Shood 4.	„ 31, „ Posh Wud 8

Bhugwanlal's account at leaf 33, dated Kartik Shood 2d.
The food to the bullocks commences on Kartik Shood 8th.
The account next it commences at leaf 34, Posh Wud 10th.
The next at leaf 35, is Margshur Wud 4th.
The next is Bhugwanlal's continued, leaf 36, Margshur Wud 15th.
The next is at leaf 37, dated Margshur Wud 2d.
The next is at leaf 38, dated Margshur Wud 9th.
The next is at leaf 40, dated Margshur Wud 11.
The next is at leaf 42, dated Posh Shood 1st.
The next is at leaf 43, dated Posh Shood 9th.
The next is at leaf 45, dated Posh Shood 10th.
The next is Bhugwanlal's at leaf 46, dated Chytur Shood 1st.
The next is at leaf 47, dated Chytur Wud 6th.
The next is at leaf 48, dated Posh Wud 3d.

There is no difference in the paper, and though the account is the only one that has six columns, there are some with five, and others which have room for six, three columns being on one half only of the leaf.

There is another account of Hurreeshun Kur, Dessae of Wuran, which is entered similarly to Bhugwanlal's, commencing at leaf 40, continuing on leaf 41, and from that going on to leaf 73. No inference can therefore be drawn of its incorrectness from it, the irregularity of the entries by the dates also prevents any doubt from that circumstance.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

Accusation No 1.

Bhugwanlal's Account-book is examined.

It is an account-book for 1896, in which all his expenses and receipts are entered, but no date either of the month or day is stated regularly. The entry is,

Korees 270, a pair of bullocks from Nooroodeen, as below:

Ks.	
250,	the price of the bullocks.
10,	the man who came with them.
10,	the Akheeram Patell (Bhagwanlal's servant).
270	Falgoon Wud 8th.

There is no date to any other entry, but one immediately preceding this of 150 korees to Bhaee Shree, Hunutram Wud 8th, so that the time of disbursement cannot be ascertained from any other than this one.

The reason of this he states to be, that it is not a regular account-book, but the items are entered as leisure and recollection permitted; sometimes in his own handwriting, sometimes in others; those of the items of the same description as this are all in his own handwriting; this is the reason for the entry having been made so long after, and he states the date to be that of the entry, not of the payment. This, differing from his first statement, that the money was paid on that date, he says he merely could have mentioned the date at all from the chopras, so, not remembering the circumstance, he thought it was the date of the payment; that the delay in the entry must have arisen from his constant employ in Government business, and his family being here; so that he had no leisure, and entered it after their departure to Joonaghur, after the Hoolee; he denies that he had any bullocks before

before he purchased these, and these were the only ones he had until November 1843, when he sent for a young pair, which had been bred up for him at Bhyawuddur; but that in 1896, he had cows and buffaloes whose cotton seed and oilcake was supplied by Bhora Wullee Bhye Moosajee. Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lail and others.

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Wullabhye Moosajee produces his books, in which there is a namah of Bhugwanlal for 1896.

	Ks.	*a.*	
Kartik Shood 3d, November 1889, korees 33, panseeree to Kartik Wud 9th	7	13	
14 kor. 28 panseeree will be given on the 14th	5	10	
Kor. 9 panseeree	2	–	
Sunday, Posh Shood 4th, 20	4	–	agreed to be taken by the hand of Kanda.
TOTAL	19	7	

Monday, Posh Shood 5th, to give two panseerees daily, till	*Ks.*	*a.*
Posh Wud 1st, Wednesday	5	–
Tuesday, Mah Wud 4, 4½ panseerees at one koree	15	2
Saturday, Falgoon Wud 1st, to Falgoon Wud 4th, daily, three panseerees	2	8
	25	10

Monday, Chytur Wud 1st, cleared to give, for 31 days, 32 panserees of Kor. for eight korees agreed, and 90 panseerees for 20 korees	*Ks.*	*a.*
	27	9
Asar Shood 1st	10	–

[*Note.*—The oil-cake is stopped at this time, as the rain comes on.]

(True translation.)

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

PETITION from *Bhugwunlal Mudunjee.*

NOOROODEEN has represented on the 10th Falgoon Wud (2d April), that he had given to me in 1896, a pair of bullocks of a red colour, for which he had not been paid. An inquiry into this was made on the 8th April, and I produced what documents I had; at that time no objections were stated for me to reply to, but afterwards having consulted with his people, Nooroodeen stated that he had given the bullocks in the month Waeeshak, and petitioned to that effect on Chytur Shood 8th (April 15th), and inquiry into it has been since carried on, and I have given in such proofs as I possess. But in Nooroodeen's and the other statements there are differences as follows:

1st. In his first petition, No. 2440, he has entered an item at Jooreea, and with it this complaint. Unless he had treachery in his heart, why did he not state the month?

2d. On the 18th April, Nooroodeen deposes, that five or ten days previous to the end of Wyshak he gave me those bullocks, but in examining Nuthoo Modee's accounts, it appears that from the day he came until he left, the oil-cake is daily the same; if therefore he had not these or other bullocks, why should the quantity have been continued, for it is not customary to give the buffaloe so much oil-cake?

3d.* In his statement, he states that Bhooj (Jeewur Ram) hired another garee and went to Mangrol, and that he himself brought the garee to Rajkote, and staid here all Kartik, and on the 27th Ramzan went to Mangrol and left the cart and bullocks with Ata Hoosein, and in the answer to the first question he says, those bullocks were red, and that one had a† white spot; these bullocks are the very ones I now have; some people call their colour rata (red), some gora (red), but these two colours are the same; in his reply on the 21st April, he has stated, that if any food was bought for the bullocks, it was of Nuthoo Modee; but green grass being procurable, nothing perhaps might have been got from him, and that dal also will have been given to bullocks. As to this, I state that in Kartik, green grass is not always procurable, and in that year there was a scarcity of rain; how then could he get it? He states that most of the things are obtained from the Modee, but looking at Nuthoo Modee's accounts, I find that he came in Kartik Shood 5th, and went on Kartikwud 15th, but in all this there is no entry for any food for bullocks; but he states that his camelman and cartman used to go and cut grass, and that he had but one horse, and that as it was the fast, the camelman and ganchee cut grass, and that he had but one horse, and that when he sent for the rekla, he sent also for a horse with it for Ahmed Khan; but in the Modee's books is entered on the 1st Margshur Shood, five seers of goor for bullocks. He had sent for these bullocks in haste, and they will have come by long

* This refers to the first stay of Nooroodeen, at Rajcote.

† In the deposition it may mean more than one.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

long marches, and the goor will have been to give to them, otherwise why should it have been given.*

4th. Nurbheeram Vukeel, in his deposition, states that the rekla and bullocks will have been taken to Mangrol, and that the colour of the bullocks was moojra (roan or gray); this man was employed through Nooroodeen, and subsequent to Nooroodeen and me being confronted in the inquiry, he and Nooroodeen agreed together that he should give his evidence, but it is all made up, and he has given evidence on a subject he was unacquainted with. Thus, for the reasons I have stated, it appears; he is an opium-eater, how then can any reliance be placed on his word?

5th. Ata Hooseen is Nooroodeen's servant; in his deposition of the 19th he has stated that the bullocks were moojra (roan or gray), sufèd (white), and lal (red), but in these red, white, and moojra there is much difference.†

6th. Russeddas Mehta is Nooroodeen's servant, and he has stated that the bullocks were dola (white), and from Nooroodeen's reply on this subject, it is evident that this is made up evidence; thus it is:

These people have consulted together and made up this accusation, and proof being required, this has been part of their service, the sirkar should consider this. You have objected to the proof in my account-book, but I was not able to keep regular accounts like a dealer; for in November 1830, I was employed in the Government service, and from that day till now, you and all people know my time of performing my duty at the Kucheree; leaving it I go home, and having taken my meal, examine and complete the work to prevent mistakes the following day; thus looking after my duty, I have no time to keep regular accounts, so I entered things for my own information of expenditure, without looking at dates, not expecting ever to be called to account on them, so that I did not attend to them; besides, my expenditure was too small for me to forget it, so that remembering my expenditure, if any one was present, he would enter it, or I would do it myself; my pay at that time was too small for me to keep a clerk, and if my account was with a dealer, I could get a copy from him, or make one myself, thus at that time I managed. This I represent to you.

Date, 23d April 1845.

(signed) *Bhugwanlal Mudunjee.*

(True translation.)

(signed) A. Malet, Political Agent.

Enclosure No. 3, to Government Letter, No. 76, of 3d May 1845.

Remarks and Opinion on Evidence, Enclosure No. 3.

This is additional evidence on case No. 11, forming Enclosure No. 7, to my Letter, No. 56, that of a gold ooutree given by Shekh Nooroodeen to Bhugwanlall.

Yakoob Khan deposes, that he has been some time, and now is, in Nooroodeen's service; that he left Mangrol on his own affairs at Joonaghur, on leave from his master's *locum tenens*, and that he came on here of his own accord, on hearing a report that he would be required as a witness; that he could not leave Mangrol without leave to go to Joonaghur, but that he required no permission to come on to Rajkote; that he went with Nooroodeen to give the oouteeree to Bhugwanlall; that he saw Nooroodeen take it from his box, and that he had seen it during the day; that no one else came out of Bhugwanlall's room after Nooreedeen went in; that a servant of Nooreedeen's brought a letter to Mangrol, and that Sher Khan, to whom it was addressed, told him (Yakoob Khan) to go to Rajkote from Joonaghur.

Nooroodeen deposes that Yakoob Khan is not, and never has been, in his service; that he sent word, but no letter, by a servant to Sher Khan to send him to Rajkote; that he showed him the oouteeree only in his own hand when going to take it to Bhugwanlall's.

Both these evidences agree but on one point, that they went together to Bhugwanlall's, and that Naroodeen had with him the oouteeree, but it may also be gathered from them that Yakoob Khan was specially called, and from his method of giving evidence and its matter, I should say carefully tutored in what he was to say. Contradictions are on points which would not be supposed to form part of the examination, and I am sure it was intended to keep the fact of his having been sent for secret. I am also positive, that in Nooroodeen's examination his words, though I have merely entered them as stating that Yakoob Khan was not here, were such as to lead me to believe that he did not know where he was, and I find in the Goozerattee notes, that though his name was entered as one of the witnesses, at the same time with those of others who were at Mangrol, he was not sent for, as he certainly would have been, had Nooroodeen stated his place of residence as he did that of the others.

If

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* This is to show that these bullocks were sent for after the sale of the others, and that, having come in by forced marches to take back the garee, they, as usual, received a large quantity of goor.

† He says, moojra (roan or gray), sufèd (white), and lal (red), but called moojra.

If the witnesses were persons worthy of credit, the circumstantial evidence on this accusation would be strong; as it is, I do not change my opinion recorded in my letter, No. 56, that he is innocent of the charge.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

No. 11.—*Bhugwanlall.*

Yakoob Khan, on solemn affirmation, deposes: I am at present, and have for five or six months since Shurval, been in Shekh Nooroodeen's service.

Question. Whence have you now come?—*Answer.* From Joonaghur, where I staid one night; I came there from Mangrol. I came to Joonaghur on my own affairs, and hearing a report that I was wanted here as an evidence here.

Who told you you were wanted as an evidence?—No one in particular; it was a rumour.

So you came to Junaghur in your business, and on this rumour left it undone, and came here?—Exactly so.

Who gave you leave to go from Mangrol to Joonaghur?—Shaik Nooroodeen's brother-in-law, Sher Khan.

Could you not have left Mangrol without his leave?—No.

Whose leave did you get to come here from Joonaghur?—No one's, I came of my own accord; there was no one there to ask leave of.

Where did you stay the night at Joonaghur?—At Shakjee Meeas.

Did you meet any of Nooroodeen's people there?—No, but there were many people there. I spoke to no one in particular.

Were you in Rajcote in 1900?—Yes, with Rubeeb Khan. I was the servant of Syud Burea Meea of Joonaghur.

Did you live with Hubeeb Khan?—Yes.

Did you ever go with him to give any present to Bhugwanlal?—No; but Shekh Nooroodeen went to give him a gold oouturee, and I went with him.

At what time did you go there?—I cannot remember the day; but it was at night, about eight o'clock.

From whose house did you go?—From Nooroodeen's; we were alone.

Where did you meet Bhugwanlal?—We went to his house, and staid there rather less than a ghurree.

Where did you sit?—I did not go in, but staid outside. He went into the place made for sitting in, which had been built a short time.

Did Nooroodeen show you the oouturee when he was coming away?—I saw him wrap it up in a cloth; but I had seen it before, I was in his confidence; I saw it the day we went to give it.

Did Nooroodeen say anything to you about it?—No, nothing; but when he left Bhugwanlal's, he said he had given it to him.

Where did you go after leaving Bhugwanlal's house?—Home.

Did you ever go with Nooroodeen on a similar errand, or with Hubeet Khan?—No, never.

When Nooroodeen went in, did any one come out?—Not that I saw.

Could you see, from where you were, if any one came out?—Yes.

Who were at the door where you sat; and did you speak to any one?—There were Mohsulee Siphaes, &c., but did not speak to any one.

Who carried the oouturee?—Nooroodeen.

Re-examined.

How many days is it since you left Mangrole?—Five days.

In what cloth did Nooroodeen wrap up the oouturee?—I do not know, that is, I can't remember.

In what particular way do you serve Noodooreen?—In any he pleases. I am called bargheer.

What is your pay?—Whatever he chooses to give me. I am with him.

When Nooroodeen came to Rajcote, did you come with him?—No, I staid at his house in Mangrol. I have left the Durbar service six months.

Have you any post in Nooroodeen's service now?—No, none in particular.

What, was it a moonlight night when you went to Bhugwanlal's?—Yes, bright moonlight.

Do you know a servant of Nooroodeen's named Koobun?—Yes.

When did you last see him?—When I left Mangrol, I believe I was there; but this place was at the Jhampa, and I lived at the Dalee, so I cannot be sure.

How long before you left did you see him?—Perhaps eight or ten days.

When he came from Rajcote, did you see him?—He brought a letter, which was read by Sheer Khan and Russeedas, perhaps five or six days before I left Mangrol.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Did Sheer Kan tell you anything about going to Rajkote?—Yes; he said, "When you have done what you want there you had better go to Shekjee, at Rajkote."

What reason did he give for your going there?—None.

Bhugwanlal has no questions to put.

Taken on solemn affirmation before me, this 15th day of April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

No. 11.

Bhugwanlal examines *Nooroodeen* on solemn affirmation.

Question. How long has Rakoob Khan been in your service?—*Answer.* He is not in my service, and has never been; he was long in the Durbar service, and about eight months ago was in the Durbar employ. I don't know whose service he is in; he is a friend of my brother-in-law's, Sher Khan.

Why did you send for him here?—He was a witness of mine, so I sent word to Sher Khan that if he were at Mangrol he should send him here. I sent the message, not a letter, by a man called Koobun, who went there.

How many days since did he reach Mangrol?—Seven or eight days.

What news has Yakoob Khan brought from Sher Khan?—I do not know; I have not met him.

When did you show Yakoob Khan the oouturee?—When I went to Bhugwanlal's to give it, and told him I was going to give it.

Did you show it to him in the street, or house?—In the house.

Did you show it to him when you first got it?—No.

Did you at any time show it to him?—Not that I remember.

Did you show it to him for him to examine it?—No, I showed it to him in my own hand clearly, so that he could well know it was an oouturee.

How did you wrap it up?—I put it in my waistband without wrapping it up.

Did you speak to him on the subject on the road?—No.

Did you speak to him after leaving?—I said I had given it, as he was not by when I gave it.

How many doors are there in the room where Bhugwanlal was sitting?—One; there may have been another to go into the house, but I do not know that there is.

Did Yakoob Khan always stay with you?—Very often he came; I was intimately acquainted with him.

At what time that evening did he come to you?—About evening.

Had you seen him before that day?—Yes, at my house; he was sitting there, and ate his dinner with me, I think, but he certainly was in my house. I did not tell him to come in the evening to go with me; I don't remember at what time he left, nor whether he left at all; he came and went as he liked.

When you gave Bhugwanlal the oouturee was it moonlight, or dark?—It was light bright; I think about 10 or 12 of our month Shawul.

When you left Mangrol was Yakoob Khan there?—Yes, he was living at the durbar's; it was before he left the durbar service.

Do you know where he has been living?—With Sher Khan, but not in his service.

Bhugwanlal has no questions to put.

Taken on solemn affirmation before me, the 15th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

No. 5483. MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by His Excellency the Commander in Chief and the Honourable Mr. *Reid*.

I CONCUR with Mr. Malet in opinion in this case, and think we should confirm the decision already recorded, that the charges against Bugwanlal are not proved, and that the transaction in regard to the bullocks, though irregular and improper, was not corrupt, *i. e.*, they were bought and not received as a gift.

(signed) *George Arthur.*
T. M'Mahon.
L. R. Reid.

27 May 1845.

No. 2790 of 1845.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

From the Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

No. 5484.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 3d ultimo, No. 76, submitting further evidence on the two charges of bribery and corruption, noted in the margin,* preferred against your native agent, Bhugwanlal Madowjee by Sheik Nowrodeen, late minister of the Mangrolee state.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you that the Governor in Council concurs in the view which you have taken of this case, and confirms the decision communicated in my letter, dated the 29th April last, No. 2131, namely, that the charges against Bhugwanlal are not proved, and that the transaction in regard to the bullocks, though irregular and improper, was not corrupt.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 6 June 1845.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 2 July 1845.

No. 6225.

Government, No. 83 of 1845.—General, No. 333 of 1845.

Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

As I have now, as far as I can, completed my reports on the accusations brought against my establishment by Nooroodeen, Hubeeb Khan, and Madhar Sing, I think it right to state, for the consideration of the Honourable the Governor in Council, my opinion on the course these persons are pursuing on sending their agents to Bombay, and the consequence which, without great care will probably ensue.

2. Government was before informed that agents had left this for Bombay, but you will perceive from the enclosed letter from Captain Aston, that they are accompanied by Mankhan, whose case was reported to Government on the 24th August last, and concerning whose disreputable character there is no doubt whatever.

3. Mudhar Sing's dispute with his chief having been, as far as my office is concerned, settled some months ago, I think it unnecessary to notice his portion of the affair; he is besides too near the head-quarters of the Agency for me to fear much evil from the course he has pursued with Hubeeb Khan, and especially with Shekh Nooroodeen the case is widely different.

4. Shekh Nooroodeen was dismissed from his ministry in Mangrol in October last, and as is invariably the case among native states, he has been required by Durbar to submit his accounts for examination; as his appointment by the Durbar was made with the concurrence of Captain Jacob, I considered myself bound to require from the Shekh of Mangrol a fair settlement for him, and in prosecution of Captain Jacob's arrangements, I insisted on its being conducted through Joonaghur, the superior authority.

5. The apparent reason of the accusations now made is, that some of his ill-gotten gains being demanded from him, and trusting (I speak it with some shame) to the readiness with which I listened to his tales, he thought that he might procure credit for his asserted disbursements, even if his higher object of again obtaining power were frustrated.

6. This

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* First Charge: That he, Bhugwan Lal, obtained by extortion from the complainant, in 1839–40, a pair of bullocks.

Second Charge: That he, Bhugan Lal, received, in 1843–44, as a bribe, from the complainant, a gold chain, of the value of 1,200 korees.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

6. This object of course has failed; and in reply to his petition to me, I have informed him that not a fraction of his improper asserted disbursements will be allowed in his accounts; this would have been my same proceeding had the accusations been true, for nothing will more deter from bribery by subordinate agents, than the knowledge that the payment will eventually fall on themselves.

7. The usual course of examination has now to be pursued, and this is conducted by Joonaghur, as arbitrator, while the present Minister of Mangrol, his most bitter enemy, is his opponent, even without the existence of passion on either side; Government is aware that such proceedings are of the most difficult and delicate nature; what they are likely to be in this case may be easily supposed.

8. With every desire to act impartially, I cannot expect to escape the imputation of harshness to Nooroodeen, nor if anything like justice be done, can the parties lately accused by him hope to avoid the loud outcries against their vengeance which he will raise.

9. Having lost the fruits of success, he is already endeavouring to turn his defeat to account, and his utmost exertions will not be wanting to render it as profitable as possible. The game he played was well arranged; had he won it, probably nothing would have been wanting to him, while its loss makes him, as far as this Agency is concerned, no worse off than before.

10. The foregoing, you perceive, has no reference to the mission to Bombay, to which I now wish to draw attention. It is in the recollection of Government that the discontented party at Limree had an agent in Bombay; and it is within my knowledge that this was the principal cause of the long continued discontent in Jhalawar, which, on two occasions, nearly led to actions which must have caused much bloodshed. The agents in Bombay, especially servants, sent on the present occasion, however slender their hopes, or however certain their failure, must, for their own purposes, invariably magnify the one, or conceal the other; such a state of things acting on Joonaghur and Mangrol, both hotbeds of intrigue, while the two were but a short time since almost at open war, cannot but be expected to produce mischievous results.

11. If, therefore, Government can consistently with impartiality take any decided steps to discourage the agents in Bombay, it would, I think, have a good effect. I refuse to Nooroodeen any further inquiry into his accusations, while I extend to him in his affairs with Mangrol the same countenance as I should have done had he been as good a character as he was once supposed; there will be of course numerous complaints of the contrary, but I trust for my justification to the knowledge of Government that many things occur in which, under any circumstances, interference would be impracticable, or at any rate unadvisable.

12. Hubeeb Khan's case is so far parallel to the above, that the engagements into which he entered with the Nuwab have not yet been fulfilled; but as the inquiries were finished long since, and the arrangements determined, there is not ground for either such difficulty or such discontent, added to which, I do not think Hubeeb Khan so dangerous a man; and while there is between the parties in and out of power at Joonaghur as bitter animosity as exists between those of Mangrol, there is not so much passion, while whatever may be the faults of the Nuwab, he, contrasted with the shekh, exercises considerable control over all his subordinates.

13. I fear I may be thought obtrusive in thus stating my opinions to Government; but the excessive evil of extra work has been made so apparent by the late impediments to the common business of the country, that I hope the indulgent consideration of the Honourable the Governor in Council may be extended to me.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency, Rajkote,
16 May 1845.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

From Captain *H. Aston*, First Assistant Political Agent, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that it has been reported to me that the Mehta Ruseeddas, and Kubba Gande, two of the witnesses against Bhugwanlal and Goolabraee, in support of the late accusations of Nooroodeen and others, have passed through Gogeh, on their way to Bombay, and that they were accompanied by Mankhan, the individual of infamous character, who, in September last, brought accusations against Bhugwanlal of taking presents from Nuthoo Khan at Joonaghur, which investigation proved to be false.

2. They gave out that they were proceeding to Bombay to prosecute their accusations, which had failed at Rajkote, and this accords with the remark made to me by a Parsee passing by yesterday on his way from Rajkote to Surat, "that the accusing parties had given out at Rajkote, that they were determined never to desist from their efforts to establish their accusations, but that they would send agents to Bombay, and employ a European barrister, and appeal even to the Court of Directors. That these parties had also been endeavouring to retain a wukeel of the Sudder Adawlut, named Dadabhoy Framjee, who was casually passing through, and who (of course) spoke of his great intimacy with high Government functionaries and the influential Parsees at the Presidency; but he hesitated to meddle with a busidess promising to be profitable, because the effect his doing so might have upon his interests and character elsewhere, seemed doubtful."

3. Man Khan returned to Rajkote during the late proceedings against Bhugwanlal; and during these proceedings Syud Ubdoolla also is known to have been in Rajkote, the man who was concerned in the notorious gold bribe some years ago, and also in the conspiracy last year at Joonaghur against Bhugwanlal and Goolabraee.

I have, &c.

12 May 1845. (signed) *H. Aston*,
Assistant Political Agent.

(True copy.)

(signed) A. Malet, Political Agent.

Government, No. 86 of 1845.—General, No. 338 of 1845. No. 6225 A.

Political Department..

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to my letter No. 83, of yesterday's date, I have the honour to inform you that I have received a letter from Captain Aston, dated 14th instant, informing me that Man Khan has not proceeded to Bombay with Russeeddass and Kuba Gandee, but has remained at Gogeh.

I have, &c.

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency, Rajkote,
17 May 1845.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Crawford* and the Honourable Mr. *Reid*. No. 6226.

THE complaints alluded to in this letter having been carefully and impartially investgated, I do not think the inquiry should be re-opened.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

The agents deputed for this purposed, named Ruseedass and Kuba Gandee, should not therefore be received, but be discountenanced.

No petitions should be received from them ; they have had every opportunity afforded them to substantiate their charges, and have failed. They appear to be the agents of a corrupt intrigue.

On these grounds they should be refused admittance to the secretariate, and if they appear before me, I shall inform them I cannot attend to any further com plaints on the subject, which have been investigated.

This appears to me to be the proper course, but I shall be glad to be favoured with Mr. Reid's opinion.

23 June 1845. (signed) *G. Arthur.*
J. H. Crawford.

I entirely concur.

(signed) *L. R. Reid.*

No. 6227.

No. 3140 of 1843.—Political Department.

From *E. H. Townsend*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to *A. Malet*, Esq. Political Agent in Katteewar, Rajkote.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 16th May last, No. 83, reporting that the three individuals named in the margin,* have been deputed to Bombay by Sheik Nowrooden and Hubbeeb Khan, to prosecute their accusafions against your native establishment; and suggesting that they be discountenanced by Government.

* Ruseeddas, Kuba Gandee and Man Khan.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you that, as the complaints which these individuals, who appear to be the agents of a corrupt intrigue, have preferred against your native establishment, have been carefully and impartially investigated, and as every opportunity has been afforded them to substantiate their charges, in which they have failed, the Governor in Council considers that no advantage would result from having the inquiry re-opened.

3. The agents above mentioned, who have been deputed to Bombay for this purpose, will not therefore be received by Government, and any petitions which they may present to Government will be returned to them, with an intimation that Government has resolved not to pay any attention to their representations on the subject of the above charges; orders have also been issued for refusing admitance to these persons within the secretariate.

4. I am also desired to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 17th May last, No. 86, and to inform you that Captain Aston, has been misinformed regarding Man Khan not having proceeded to Bombay, since this individual has been at the Presidency for some time past, and has personally presented several petitions to Government on the above subject.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle, 1 July 1845. (signed) *E. H. Townsend,* Secretary to Government.

No. 6228.

No. 3141 of 1845.

Resolution of Government in the Political Department.

Ordered, That copy of a letter from the Political Agent in Katteewur, dated the 16th May last, No. 83, with enclosure, reporting that the three individuals named in the margin* have been deputed to Bombay by Sheik Nowrooden, the late minister of the Manjoolee state, and Hubbeeb Khan, to prosecute certain accusations

* Russeddas, Kuba Gandee, and Man Khan.

accusations which they have preferred against his native establishment, together with an extract, para. 1 to 4, from a Minute recorded thereon by the Honourable the Governor, dated the 23d ultimo, concurred in by the Honourable Board, be transferred to the Persian department, for the information and guidance of the secretary in that department.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

(signed) *E. H. Townsend,*
Bombay Castle, 1 July 1845. Secretary to Government.

To the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, Bombay.

No. 5564.

The humble PETITION of *Maunkhan Vuludey Vuleekhan*, Inhabitant of Benares, and at present in Ahmedabad,

Most humbly showeth,

THAT your humble petitioner begs very respectfully to bring the following circumstances into the favourable notice of your honourable Board, and trust it will meet with your kind approbation.

That your petitioner was a treasurer of the Nawab of Joonaghur, and after the demise of the late Nawab Bahdurkhan, his son, Ahmud Khan, has taken his seat on the gadee, at which time the Karbharies of the Political Agent's office, named Bhugwanlall and Golabroy, have taken much bribe, which your petitioner reported to the Political Agent in Kattywar; but without making any inquiry he at once imprisoned your petitioner, and attached your petitioner's property; and after the expiration of three months, your petitioner has been released, but the property is still in sequestration. Your petitioner, therefore, most humbly begs to request to order the Political Agent to remove the attachment, and if Government may be wished to prove the case, your petitioner is well able to do so if those two persons will be suspended, and if he will be unable to prove the case, he is ready to suffer a punishment whatever your honourable Board may deem proper; and by complying with this request your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

(signed) *Maunkhan Vuleydy Vuleeskhan.*
Ahmedabad, 4 April 1845.

No. 1961 of 1845.—Political Department.

REFERRED for the report of the Political Agent in Kattywar.

By order, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Bombay Castle, 21 April 1845. Chief Secretary.

No. 1962 of 1845.—Political Department.

To *Maunkhan Vuludey Vuleekhan*, Inhabitant in Ahmedabad.

I AM directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acquaint you that your petition, dated the 4th instant, has been received, and referred for inquiry to the Political Agent in Kattywar, on the receipt of whose report the orders of Government will be communicated to you.

By order, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Bombay Castle, 21 April 1845. Chief Secretary.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

General, No. 69 of 1845.

General, No. 276.—Political Department.

No. 5565.

From the Political Agent in Katteeawar to the Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your order of the 21st instant, No. 1961, and to inform you that I have not attached any property belonging to Maunkhan. His accusations were reported on, under date 24th August last, in a letter, No. 99.

2. The original petition and order are returned, copies being kept.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katteeawar, Political Agency, Rajkote,
28 April 1844.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 2 July 1845.

No. 6122.

Government, No. 80 of 1845.—General, No. 325 of 1845.

Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

1. Petition from Jareejee MudharSing, of Treemba, dated 2d April 1845.
2. Evidence of Mudhar Sing.
3. Evidence of Velyee Sejd.
4. Evidence of Anuntjee Kuchee.
5. Evidence of Jenver Wagjee Bhooj.
6. Evidence of Gela Metta.
7. Extracts from Documents.

I HAVE the honour to enclose papers as per margin, relative to the accusations brought by Jerejah Mudhar Sing, of Treemba, against Goolabraee Ambashunkur, the karkoon, with the first Assistant Political Agent.

2. The vagueness of the accusations is in some measure cleared up in the deposition of the accuser, and resolves itself into three points.

1st. That an agreement to pay 5,000 korees was entered into by Mudhar Sing, which was to be given to Goolabraee, and that in part payment of this sum Anutjee received:

In 1896 552 koorees, being the balance after payment to Mudhar Sing, of 448 rupees of the Wajree farm.

In 1897 1,000 rupees being the amount of the Wajree farm.

In 1898 the price of grain from Govind's Waree, 98 maps, price not stated.

2d. That an anklet of silver of about 211 gudeeanas was given to Anutjee, for Goolabraee.

4th. That 200 rupees were given by Gela Mehta to Goolabraee.

3. The first part of the first of these accusations is unsupported by any evidence; the agreement for the amount is admitted by the writer, Jewa Bhooj, and Anuntjee Kuchee. The former does not or will not remember to whom the money was to be paid; the latter states that it was to have been paid to the late Thakoor Soorajee, of Rajkote, who was the person most interested in the question, as it directly affected his receipts.

4. The fact of the retention by Anuntjee Kuchee, of 552 korees, as part payment, is also refuted by the books, which contain the following items:

Sequestrated

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

	Korees.		
Sequestrated expenses - - - - -	198	13	7 ½
Sudur Khurch - - - - - -	3	8	–
Zubtee Wurar - - - - - - -	3	8	–
Paid to Golabchund Amurchund - -	174	–	–
Ready money - - - - - - -	9	–	–
	388	13	7 ½
Agreed by Mudhar Sing, while looking over the accounts - - - - - -	10	–	–
	398	13	7 ½
This leaves a balance - - - - -	153	2	17 ½
Korees	552	–	–

which is accounted for by the collection of the Oobhur Veera by Khengarjee, the minister of Rajkote.

5. The next part payment of 1,000 korees is fully established; Rajkote had sequestrated the property, and Anutjee was obliged to obey the durbar's orders in disposal of the produce. The other portion, the price of 98 maps of wheat, is refuted by Captain Jacob's order, which rendered it unnecessary to bring it on the accounts.

6. The second complaint, that an anklet of silver was given to Anutjee for Goolabraee, is disposed of, by his admitting that he received it for himself.

7. The fourth, that 200 rupees was paid to Goolabraee, by Gela Mehta, is denied by Gela Mehta.

8. There being therefore no case against Goolabraee, I have not thought it necessary to call on him for his defence.

9. Mudar Sind yesterday petitioned me not to carry on the inquiry, as the witnesses were afraid in consequence of Bhugwanlal's restoration to office to tell the truth. I refused this, as a portion of the proof almost essential to conviction, rested on accounts which were not affected by the circumstance.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency,
Rajkote, 13 May 1845.

Enclosure No. 1, to Government Letter, No. 80, dated 13 May 1845.

PETITION of *Mudar Sing Jarejah,* of the Rajkote Bhyad, Grasseea of Treemba, 2 April 1845.

1. 5,000 korees. A writing without name, to make over the giras in 25 days, but this was not done as agreed in the writing, and in 1887, 1,000 korees, the amount of the farm of the village of Wajree, and in 1896, balance of the farm, which remained of 300 korees, were through the means of Anutjee Kutchee embargoed and taken.

2. An anklet of silver of about 211 guddeanas, which some Munguljee made to be given by the hand of Anutjee to Mehta Goolabraee; witnesses Waneeo, Veljee, and myself, we gave it.

3. 98 maps (1 ¼ kulsee) in 1898 of the Wuje of Patel Govinds Warre, in the writing for 5,000 korees to Mehta Anutjee Kutchee, by the hand of Jeewa Vakeel.

4. 200 rupees of mine, and 200 rupees of Jareja Jeteejee of Kamba, and 100 rupees of Jareja Surtanjee, of Parasun, altogether 500. Mehta Judarjee Bhooj, the karbaree of Jarejah Kakeenojee, of Jellea, by the hand of his vakeel Mehta Gela, were given to Goolabraee. My 200 rupees from Gosbea Juslee and Pank Kurshunjee were received, bearing interest, and the interest till now is due by me.

The above I informed Captain Lang of at Sadra; to get my business done I gave as I have above stated, but my business was not done, and on the contrary, my jumma was increased from one to two korees, and my house in Rajkote and Waree were taken; thus I was injured. On my stating this, the aforesaid gentleman wrote an English letter to Mr. Malet, and told me to state to him what I had said there, but I did not (alone) have

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

an interview with him, and I am greatly injured, so that I cannot write it; the above-mentioned agreement for 5,000 korees is in Mehta Jeewa Bhooj's handwriting. What is above written, if the sirkar will inquire into, it is well, or they will keep up enmity and destroy me, therefore befriend and assist me, I state this privately to the Hoozoor.

Written by
Jarejah Mudar Sing.

1901, Falgoon Wud 11.

(True translation).
(signed) A. Malet, Political Agent.

Enclosure No. 2, to Government Letter, No. 80, dated 13 May 1845.

Mudar Sing Jarejah, of Treemba, Rajkote Bhyad.

Question. In your petition of the 2d April, in the first paragraph, you mention that you gave an engagement for 5,000 korees, and that 1,300 korees also were taken from you, to whom was this engagement given, and to whom was the money paid?—*Answer.* The durbar claimed from me 3,000 korees a year from my jumma, but this was not proved, and on a dispute for the heirship to the lands of Jetabhye and Gujabhyee, Wajree was sequestrated by the Political Agent on the claim of the durbar; I gave to Mr. Blane a writing to settle as customary, and the zubtee was removed, but two months before in 1896, I had given the Wajree farm to Anutjee Kutchee, and the amount 1,000 korees remained with him.

After Kakabhye's (my elder brother) death, there was a report of the pregnancy of his widow. Anutjee Kutchee told me that she might get up a child, so that I had better give something to Bhagwanlal and Goolabraee. I said I had nothing, and went home, but my dispute with the widow continued, and Jeewa Bhooj advised me to give something to persons (not mentioning names), so I caused Jewa Bhooj to write an engagement for 5,000 korees from me, but omitting the persons to whom it was to be paid, and gave it to Anutjee Kuchee. Three or four days after this, Captain Jacob ordered that, as 11 months had elapsed without an heir to Kakabhye, I should succeed, and a Jeewaee should be given to the Bhaee, and Captain Jacob sequestrated my village, and the time (25 days) in which according to the written engagement, my business was to be arranged, elapsed. I had received from the Wajree farm for 1896, 448 korees, and the whole of the 1,000 korees for 1897 remained with the farmer, and when I asked him for the balance, Anutjee Kutchee said it had gone on account of the 5,000 korees engagement. After Mr. Malet's arrival, Jewa Bhooj said if I would pay the 5,000, my jumma should be settled at 2,700, and that the Political Agent would sign the arrangement. I refused, but agreed to a jumma of 2,500, but a dispute followed on this, and Jewa Mehta said Goolabraee and Bhagwanlal and Anundjee Ramdar are of one mind, you had better pay the korees; I refused, and those people then consulted together, and at Captain Aston's Goolabraee told me to agree to a punchayut.

When the note was written, I and Noghunjee, of Gunod, and Jewa Bhooj were present; when it was given to Anutjee Kutchee, I and Jewa Bhooj were with him.

Jeewa Mehta knows all about the Wajree proceeds.

Given before me, the 10th April 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Enclosure No. 3, to Government Letter, No. 80, dated 13 May 1845.

Accusation by *Mudar Sing*.—A silver anklet 211 guddeanas given to Goolabraee.

Velje Sejoo, on solemn affirmation deposes:

Question. Do you remember a silver anklet of 211 guddianas made by Soonee Mungujee for Mudar Sing?—*Answer.* I do not know anything about its weight, but I remember that Mudar Sing had a silver anklet, and Sonee Mungujee may have made it.

Do you remember what year it was with Mudar Sing?—It was with him two or three years since, when there was a dispute with Kakabhye's widow.

Do you remember to whom it was given?—Yes, it was given to Anutjee Kuchee; Mudar Sing gave it with his own hands; I was with him.

What for was it given to him?—I did not hear the detailed reason, but it was for the settlement of the dispute with Kakabhye's widow.

Did you hear that it was to be given to anyone else?—No.

Was it given during the day or night, secretly or openly?—In the day time; Mudar Sing and I and Anutjee were there, and two or three others, but I don't remember who they were.

Given on solemn affirmation before me, the 10th May 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Enclosure 4, to Government Letter, No. 80, dated 13 May 1845.

Mudar Sing's accusation of a silver anklet given to Goolabraee by Anutjee Kutchee.

Anutjee Kutchee, on solemn affirmation, deposes:

Did Mudar Sing give to you a silver anklet weighing 211 guddeanas?—He gave me an anklet weighing 205 or 205 ½ gudeeanas, I believe in 1897 or 1898.

For what purpose?—At that time there were three affairs of Mudar Sing's, in which, though I was not his vakeel, I was employed; first, the probability of a posthumous child to Rakabhye; second, his claim to continue to reside in Rajkote; third, the amount of his jummabundee; and Soorajee, then Rajkote Thakoor, required something to be given to him for his favour on these points, and it was arranged that if he would give 5,000 korees, no supposititious child should be brought forward; his jumma should be fixed at 2,700 korees, and that of his two houses in Rajkote, he should retain one. Mudar Sing executed a paper for 5,000 korees, of which, for my part in the businees, I was to have 200 rupees. The business relative to the child was arranged, and then Mudar Sing drew back from his bargain, and wanted his jumma to be continued at 2,000 korees, and to retain his two houses; he then constantly asked me for his written agreement, and Soorajee told me to give it back to him. I told Mudar Sing that if he got back his engagement for 5,000 korees, what was to become of my claim for 200 rupees; on this account he brought a tora, and gave it to me, and in the evening I returned his note to him. I broke the tora afterwards at Bhangjee Sonee's, and made up other things. The reason of Mudar Sing withdrawing from the bargain was, that the zubtee which he had expected to be removed in 25 days was continued.

Did you pay any portion of the produce of Wajree for 1896 and 1897, in part of this 5,000 korees?—In 1896 the farm was under sequestration, but I had the waeewut, as the sequestration was removed at the beginning of the year; Kakabhye received some of the revenue; some was advanced to ryots; some was collected by the zabteedar, and Mudar Sing received some; and Khengarjee, the durbar karbaree, by force collected some; I think he had altogether got about 200 korees, for which I retained from the 1,000 korees the amount of the farm due to Mudar Sing, about 200 korees. In 1897 there was no zubtee; but the waeewut was conducted then by Soorajee's man, the patuk of Porebunder and Judooram. My farm was continued, but Soorajee took the amount, 1,000 korees, so that was not on account of the agreement for 5,000, but of it 900 korees was paid to Abdool Hubeeb and 100 to Bappoo Gurmanundass. All the Tramba talooka was that year in Soorajee's hands, in consequence of Kakabhye's death, and the undecided succession. I paid these two items in Bhadurva from the shop of Goolabchund Ameechund.

In 1898 what grain was given to you in part payment of the agreement for 5,000 korees?—In 1898 the village was under sequestration, and the produce of a waree being in farm to a charun, was by Mudar Sing ordered to be stored, so I put it at Jeeta Modees, and he some time after saying that it was spoiling, I told Mudar Sing, and he desired it to be sold, and the proceeds given to the zubteedar, so I retailed it, and paid the proceeds to the zubteedar.

Was there anything going on before Captain Ramsay concerning the jeewaee to Kakabhye's widow?—Yes, it was going on both before Captain Jacob and Captain Ramsay.

Did you get the tora while this was going on?—I was not Mudar Sing's vakeel, but he showed me all the business, and I went to Captain Ramsay about it; and I wrote a petition for Mudar Sing, on which Captain Ramsay gave an order, but a few days before this was shown to Mudar Sing, Captain Jacob went away, and Mudar Sing went with him. The tora, I believe, was given to me before this; before this the tora had been pledged with me, and had been redeemed, and was afterwards given to me.

Did you tell Mudar Sing that the tora was required for any one else?—No.

The tal of Wagree was given to you, and you were answerable to Mudar Sing for the produce; how could you allow Khengarjee to collect the oobur veera?—Mudar Sing and Khengarjee both had shares in the village; the former had the veera, the latter a share in the bhooj; Khengarjee, too, was karbaree of Rajkote and the oobur veera by force; I told Muder Sing, who complained to the sirkar at first, but desired (Mudar Sing asserts to this being told him, but states that he only got 400 or 450 korees of that year's revenue.)

Questioned by Mudar Sing.

Kakabhye gave me a share of Wajree in Kewall, and Soorojee sequestrated Tramba and Maleasun, and I ordered you not to pay any of the Wajree revenue to Soorajee, as it was my giras; how then could you, after my property was sequestrated by Captain Jacob, give any of it to him?—You never told me that the share of Wajree was your giras; I now hear it for the first time; neither did you stop payment of the money.

Given on solemn affirmation before me, the 10th May 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Enclosure 5, to Government Letter, No. 80, dated 13 May 1845.

Mudar Sing's Accusation.

Jeewa Wagjee Booj deposes, on solemn affirmation, as follows:

Question. What do you know about the grain for the wujee of Govind's waree in 1898?—*Answer.* One hundred or one hundred and one maps of wheat were received by me from the Koombee Govind; there was a sequestration, and the waree was in tal to the wudala charun, who kept in deposit at Anutjee Kutchee. Mudar Sing told the charun to show the writing on which he held the tal, until when the wheat should be held in deposit; after this I was dismissed by Mudar Sing.

Why was the wheat kept in deposit with Anutjee?—This was the sirkar's sequestration, and Mudar Sing doubted the charun's right, therefore it was sequestrated.

Was it given to Anutjee in part payment of any sum of money?—No.

Was it on account of a note of 5,000 korees given to Anutjee?—No, I believe the note was written after this.

Did you write out an engagement for 5,000 korees for Mudar Sing, and to whom?—Yes, it was without any name.

To whom was the money to be given?—I do not know to whom, but there was a talk between Anutjee Kutchee and Mudar Sing.

Why was it given?—That he might get the giras in 25 days.

Whose favour in getting the giras was requisite?—I cannot say.

Did you hear that it was to be given to Soorajee?—No; there was a separate 1,000 korees for Soorajee, for which no bond was executed.

Did you know that the 5,000 korees were for Goolabraee?—No; I do not know the name.

How do you know that 1,000 korees were to be given to Soorajee?—Because I was employed in the business; his jumabundee was to be 2,750 korees; the grass land, which had been encroached on from Rajkote, was to be given up, and as Govindjee Munkooree and Gopaljee Chuter Booj might determine, and some land for kakabhye, and that Mudar Sing should retain his house in Rajkote, and be obedient to the durbar.

Was there any talk of Kakabhye's widow having a child?—There was a talk of it, but I don't know that it had anything to do with an agreement for money. I think I was wrong in saying that the grain was deposited before the khut; I think it was after the agreement for 5,000 korees.

Why was no name entered in the note for 5,000 korees?—Anutjee long wanted the agreement, but Mudar Sing refused till he consulted Naghunjee of Gunad, who said to him, "It is for four giras; you had better agree." I don't know who it was for, for Mudar Sing and Anutjee agreed about it themselves.

What do you know about the balance due on the Wajree farm?—Of the item for 1896, 200 or 400 korees were due, and of that year, for 1897, the whole amount, 1,000 korees; that for 1896 was in consequence of the death of Kakabhye and the dispute; and that for 1897 was in consequence of the disputes, and then the sequestration followed. Soorajee took the other produce, but Mudar Sing would not allow him to take the Wajree produce, which was kept with Anutjee; I was then discharged, and I do not know whether it was paid to Mudar Sing or not.

Given on solemn affirmation before me, the 12th May 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

Enclosure 6, to Government Letter, No. 80, dated 13 May 1845.

Lala Mehta deposes on solemn affirmation.

Question. Do you know anything about 200 rupees on Mudar Sing's account, given to Golabraee by Indurjee Booj?—*Answer.* I know Indurjee Booj, but I never received any money from him to give to Golabraee, neither did I ever receive any from Mudar Sing for that purpose, nor was I his vakeel; I was vakeel of Jallea Indurjee Booj, who died in 1899.

Given on solemn affirmation before me, the 12th May 1845.

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Enclosure 7, to Government Letter, No. 80, dated 13 May 1845.

Mehta's Account.

Sequestration Accounts of Wajree for 1996.

R.	*a.*	*reas.*					
249	9	11	balance in hand of last year.				
1,382	8	6¼	produce of the year 1896.				
1,632	1	17¼					
			Deduct from this—				
			R.	*a.*	*r.*		
			15	12	–	due from the villages.	
			282	4	6¼	due from Anutjee Kutchee for wheat sold.	
298	–	6¼					
1,334	1	11	Total receipts.				

	Korees	*as.*	*reas.*
Paid to Kakabhye and Mudar Sing	390	–	–
Sequestration expenses (*a*) - -	198	13	7½
Sudur Church (*b*) - - -	3	8	–
Share of Sequestration (*c*) - -	–	–	–
Establishment - - - -	3	8	–
Expense of collecting the wujee or revenue in kind - - -	13	15	–
Total expenses - - -	609	12	7½
Balance in hand - - -	724	5	3½
	1,334	1	11

The sequestration Mehta states, on the 10th Ashar Sood 1897, that he had paid over this balance to Anutjee, the farmer of the village; and on the 29th June 1841 (Ashar Sood 11, 1897) Mudar Sing executed the usual rajeenamah, declaring that the sequestration Karkoon's accounts were passed by him.

Anutjee Kuchee's Accounts for 1896, with Mudar Sing.

			Korees	*a.*	*reas.*
To Mehta Jeewa Booj, by the hand of Roodurjee Mundeeram - -			150	–	–
For houses for cultivators - - - - - - - -	173	–	–		
	20	8	–		
			193	8	–
To Patel Mawa Tabeerera - - - - - - - - -			35	–	–
Zubtee expenses (*a*) - - - - - - - - - -			200	–	–
Sudur Kurch (*b*) - - - - - - - - - - -			3	8	–
Zubtee establishment (*c*) - - - - - - - - -			3	8	–
Row Golabchund Ameerchund - - - - -	40	–	–		
	134	–	–		
	80	–	–		
			254	–	–
Ready money - - - - - - - - - - -			9	–	–
			848	8	–

This, with the amount of the Oobur Veera, which Anutjee stated as about 200 korees, is to make up the amount of the farm, 1,000 korees.

Mudar Sing does not recognise the sequestration expense, but this does not depend on him, as it is the first expense always paid from the collection of sequestrated estates; the other item which he disallows as paid by Anutjee, are—

Paid to Goolabchund Ameerchund - - - - -	40
	134
Ready money - - - - - - - - - -	9
	183

To investigate the two first items, the books of Goolabchund Ameerchund, Anutjee Kutchee's banker, are brought and examined.

Goolabchund Ameerchund's Awura for 1897.

Bhadurwa Sood 11th.

Mudar Sing on account of Anutjee.

		K.	*a.*			
Leaf 731.	Paid to Khoja Dhya Jeewun, and by him to Parik Poonja - - - - - - - - - -	34	4			
	Ready money - - - - - - - - - -	5	12			
				40	–	–
	Bhadurwa Wud 6th.					
Leaf 751.	Transferred from Anutjee account to Mudar Sing's -			134	–	–

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Anutjee Kuchee's Account for 1897.

To Abdool Hubib, on account of Wajree for 1897 - - - -	900
To shop of Goolabchund Ameerchund, to Mehta Bappoobhye, on account of the farm of Wajree, by order of Anundjee (karbaree of Rajkote), from the shop of Goolabchund Ameerchund - - -	100
	1,000

Account continued.

Goolabchund Ameerchund's Accounts for 1897, in Anutjee Kutchee's name.

Bhadurwa Wud.

Leaf 751.	From Arab Abdool Hubeeb to Indurjee Neusee Parik - -	900
	Same date.	
	From Bappoo Ramchundur to Mehta Rewashunker Byasunker	100
		1,000

(True extracts.)

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

On the 9th July 1842, Captain Jacob ordered that the wheat from Govind's waree for 1898 should be given to the Charun, which was probably done; and not forming a part of the sequestration, does not come into the accounts of that year.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

No. 6123. Minute by the Honourable Sir *G. Arthur*, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Crawford* and Mr. *Reid*.

I see no reason for doubting the justice of Mr. Malet's decision in this case, which should therefore be confirmed.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
J. H. Crawford.
L R. Reid.

23 June 1845.

No. 3074 of 1845.—Political Department.

No. 6124. From *E. H. Townsend*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

1. I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 13th ultimo, No. 80, submitting your proceedings connected with an inquiry which you have instituted into certain charges of bribery and corruption preferred by Jarejah Mudar Sing, of Treemba, against Goolabraee Ambashunker, the karboon attached to your first assistant.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you that the Honourable the Governor in Council sees no reason for doubting the justice of your decision, namely, that these charges have been unsupported by any evidence against the accused Goolabraee; the Governor in Council therefore confirms your having acquitted this individual of these charges.

I have, &c.

(signed) *E. H. Townsend*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 27 June 1845.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 2 July 1845.

Government No. 83 of 1845.— General No. 333 of 1845.

No. 6225.
Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Kattewar to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

As I have now, as far as I can, completed my reports on the accusations brought against my establishment by Nooroodeen, Hubeeb Khan, and Mahdar Sing, I think it right to state, for the consideration of the Honourable the Governor in Council, my opinion on the course these persons are pursuing in sending their agents to Bombay, and the consequences which, without great care, will probably ensue.

2. Government was before informed that agents had left this for Bombay, but you will perceive, from the enclosed letter from Captain Aston, that they are accompanied by Man Khan, whose case was reported to Government on the 24th August last, and concerning whose disreputable character there is no doubt whatever.

3. Mudhar Sing's dispute with his chief having been, as far as my office is concerned, settled some months ago, I think it unnecessary to notice his portion of the affair; he is besides too near the head-quarters of the agency for me to fear much evil from the course he has pursued. With Hubeeb Khan, and especially with Sheikh Nooroodeen, the case is widely different.

4. Sheikh Nooroodeen was dismissed from his ministry in Mangrol in October last, and, as is invariably the case among native states, he has been required by the Durbar to submit his accounts for examination. As his appointment by the Durbar was made with the concurrence of Captain Jacob, I considered myself bound to require from the sheikh of Mangrola fair settlement from him; and in prosecution of Captain Jacob's arrangements, I insisted on its being conducted through Joonaghur, the superior authority.

5. The apparent reason of the accusations now made is, that some of his ill-gotten gains being demanded from him, and trusting (I speak it with some shame) to the readiness with which I listened to his tales, he thought that he might procure credit for his asserted disbursements, even if his higher object of again obtaining power were frustrated.

6. This object of course has failed; and, in reply to his petition to me, I have informed him that not a fraction of his improper asserted disbursements will be allowed in his accounts. This would have been my same proceeding had the accusations been true, for nothing will more deter from bribery by subordinate agents, than the knowledge that the payment will eventually fall on themselves.

7. The usual course of examination has now to be pursued, and this is conducted by Joonaghur as arbitrator, while the present minister of Mangrol, his most bitter enemy, is his opponent, even without the existence of passion on either side. Government is aware that such proceedings are of the most difficult and delicate nature; what they are likely to be in this case may be easily supposed.

8. With every desire to act impartially, I cannot expect to escape the imputation of harshness to Nooroodeen, nor, if anything like justice be done, can the parties lately accused by him hope to avoid the loud outcries against their vengeance which he will raise.

9. Having lost the fruits of success, he is already endeavouring to turn his defeat to account, and his utmost exertions will not be wanting to render it as profitable as possible. The game he played was well arranged; had he won it, probably nothing would have been wanting to him, while its loss makes him, as far as this Agency is concerned, no worse off than before.

10. The foregoing, you perceive, has no reference to the mission to Bombay, to which I now wish to draw attention. It is in the recollection of Government

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

that the discontented party at Limree had an agent in Bombay, and it is within my knowledge that this was the principal cause of the long-continued discontent in Jhalowar which on two occasions nearly led to actions which must have caused much bloodshed. The agents in Bombay, especially servants as sent on the present occasion, however slender their hopes, or however certain their failure, must for their own purposes invariably magnify the one or conceal the other; such a state of things acting on Joonaghur and Mangrol, both hotbeds of intrigue, while the two were but a short time since almost at open war, cannot but be expected to produce mischievous results.

11. If, therefore, Government can consistently with impartiality take any decided steps to discourage the agents in Bombay, it would, I think, have a good effect. I refuse to Nooroodeen any further inquiry into his accusations, while I extend to him in his affairs with Mangrol the same countenance as I should have done had he been as good a character as he was once supposed. There will be of course numerous complaints of the contrary, but I trust for my justification to the knowledge of Government, that many things occur in which, under any circumstances, interference would be impracticable, or at any rate unadvisable.

12. Hubeeb Khan's case is so far parallel to the above, that the engagements into which he entered with the Nuwaub have not yet been fulfilled; but as the inquiries were finished long since and the arrangements determined, there is not ground for either such difficulty or such discontent; added to which, I do not think Hubeeb Khan so dangerous a man: and while there is between the parties in and out of power, at Joonaghur, as bitter animosity as exists between those of Mangrol, there is not so much passion; while, whatever may be the faults of the Nuwaub, he, contrasted with the Sheikh, exercises considerable control over all his subordinates.

13. I fear I may be thought obtrusive in thus stating my opinion to Government; but the excessive evil of extra work has been made so apparent by the late impediments to the common business of the country, that I hope the indulgent consideration of the Honourable the Governor in Council may be extended to me.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency,
Rajkote, 16 May 1845.

From Captain *H. Aston*, First Assistant Political Agent, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Kattewar.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to inform you that it has been reported to me, that the Mehta Ruseeddas and Kubba Gande, two of the witnesses against Bhugwanlal and Goolabrace, in support of the late accusations of Nooroodeen and others, have passed through Gogeh on their way to Bombay, and that they were accompanied by Man Khan, the individual of infamous character, who, in September last, brought accusations against Bhugwanlal of taking presents from Nuthoo Khan, at Joonaghur, which investigation proved to be false.

2. They gave out that they were proceeding to Bombay to prosecute their accusations which had failed at Rajkote, and this accords with the remark made to me by a Parsee passing by yesterday, on his way from Rajkote to Surat, "that the accusing parties had given out at Rajkote that they were determined never to desist from their efforts to establish their accusations; but that they would send agents to Bombay, and employ a European barrister, and appeal even to the Court of Directors. That these parties had also been endeavouring to retain a wukeel of the Sudder Adawlut, named Dadabhaee Framjee, who was casually passing through, and who, of course, spoke of his great intimacy with high Government functionaries, and the influential Parsees at the Presidency; but he hesitated to meddle with a business promising to be profitable, because the effect his doing so might have on his interests and character elsewhere, seemed doubtful.

3. Man

3. Man Khan returned to Rajkote during the late proceedings against Bhugwanlal; and, during these proceedings, Syud Ubdoolla also is known to have been in Rajkote; the man who was concerned in the notorious gold bribe some years ago, and also in the conspiracy last year at Joonaghur against Bhugwanlal and Goolabraee. Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Aston,*
12 May 1845. Assistant Political Agent.

(True copy.)
(signed) A. Malet, Political Agent.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 2 July 1845.

Government, No. 86 of 1845.—General, No. 338 of 1845.—Political Department.

No. 6225 A.

From the Political Agent in Kattewar to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to my letter, No. 83, of yesterday's date, I have the honour to inform you, that I have received a letter from Captain Aston, dated 14th instant, informing me that Man Khan has not proceeded to Bombay with Ruseeddas and Kuba Gandee, but has remained at Gogeh.

I have, &c.
Kattewar Political Agency, Rajkote, (signed) *A. Malet,*
17 May 1845. Political Agent.

Minute by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Crawford.* No. 6226.

1. The complaints alluded to in this letter having been carefully and impartially investigated, I do not think the inquiry should be re-opened.

2. The agents deputed for this purpose, named Russeedass and Kuba Ganda, should not, therefore, be received, but be discountenanced.

3. No petitions should be received from them. They have had every opportunity afforded them to substantiate their charges, and have failed. They appear to be the agents of a corrupt intrigue.

On these grounds they should be refused admittance to the secretariate, and if they appear before me, I shall inform them I cannot attend to any further complaints on the subjects which have been investigated.

This appears to me to be the proper course, but I shall be glad to be favoured with Mr. Reid's opinion.

(signed) *Geo. Arthur.*
23 June 1845. *J. H. Crawford.*

Minute by the Honourable Mr. *Reid*, without date.

I entirely concur.

(signed) *L. R. Reid.*

No. 3140 of 1845.—Political Department.

From *E. H. Townsend*, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar, Rajcote. No. 6227.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 16th May last, No. 83, reporting that the three individuals named in the margin have been deputed to Bombay by Sheik Nowrooden and Hubbeeb Khan to prosecute their accusations against your Ruseeddas, Kuba Gandee, and Man Khan.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

your native establishment, and suggesting that they be discountenanced by Government.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you that as the complaints which these individuals, who appear to be the agents of a corrupt intrigue, have preferred against your native establishment, have been carefully and impartially investigated, and as every opportunity has been afforded them to substantiate their charges, in which they have failed, the Governor in Council considers that no advantage would result from having the inquiry re-opened.

3. The agents above-mentioned, who have been deputed to Bombay for this purpose, will not, therefore, be received by Government, and any petitions which they may present to Government will be returned to them, with an intimation that Government has resolved not to pay any attention to their representations on the subject of the above charges. Orders have also been issued for refusing admittance to these persons within the secretariate.

4. I am also desired to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 17th May last, No. 86, and to inform you that Captain Aston has been misinformed regarding Man Khan not having proceeded to Bombay, since this individual has been at the Presidency for some time past, and has personally presented several petitions to Government on the above subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. H. Townsend,*
Bombay Castle, 1 July 1845. Secretary to Government.

No. 3141 of 1845.

No. 6228. RESOLUTION of Government in the Political Department.

ORDERED, that copy of a letter from the Political Agent in Katteewar, dated the 16 May last, No. 83, with enclosure, reporting that the three individuals named in the margin have been deputed to Bombay by Shiek Nowroodeen, the late minister of the Manjoolee state, and Hubbeeb Khan, to prosecute certain accusations which they have preferred against his native establishment, together with an extract, paras. 1 to 4, from a Minute recorded thereon by the Honourable the Governor, dated the 23d ultimo, concurred in by the Honourable Board, be transferred to the Persian Department for the information and guidance of the secretary in that department.

Russeddas, Kuba Gandee, and Man Khan.

(signed) *E. H. Townsend,*
Bombay Castle, 1 July 1845. Secretary to Government.

Government, No. 79 of 1845.—General, No. 316 of 1845.

Political Department.

No. 6342. From the Political Agent in Katteewar, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit a copy of a petition and its translation from Shekh Nooroodeen, in reply to a communication of mine, which you will find repeated in it.

2. It does not appear to me absolutely necessary to remark on any part of this; but it will perhaps save trouble if I notice those portions which are most important.

3. The first portion of the petition relating to the manner in which his representations were examined, and the assurance that if true, they were, it appeared, capable of proof, is, as far as it goes, substantially correct. He has omitted the important consideration, that the intimation to this effect was entirely on his *ex parte* statements.

4. His

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

4. His English petition, that his urzee should not be read by a Nagur, was received, but fully knowing the contents, and having resolved on a full inquiry, there was no occasion to attend to it; the delay of three days during which I retained it myself arose from other business preventing the possibility of earlier inquiry; it was then read on Monday as usual by the native agent, and no mystery made, the inquiry commencing on Tuesday, and completed on Saturday. The second petition, relative to the time of the bullocks being given in on the 17th April, formed a separate case from the first.

5. Goolabraee came to Rajkote from Captain Aston's camp on the 18th April. The inquiry into the second petition against Bhugwan Lal, and other business, which the former week had thrown greatly in arrears, prevented my commencing it till 2d May; and other pressing work coming on, prevented its rapid completion. On the 5th May Nooroodeen stated that he was ill, and left the Agency as the case was coming on. On the 6th the Government letter, No. 2131, reached me, and Bhugwan Lal's suspension was removed. That night Ruseeddass left this for Bombay on the day Nooroodeen was sent for, but stated that illness prevented his coming; the 6th, 7th, and 8th the same; and on the 9th he came and stated that he could not further carry on his accusations, as the first had been disproved. I told him that they had been disproved in consequence of the discrepancies in his evidence, which would not happen in true accusations, and that if he could adduce good evidence, I should certainly convict upon it.

6. I did not publish the reasons of acquittal as directed by Government, as some of the cases had been just submitted to Government, and Goolabraee's case was in course of inquiry.

7. As to the chopras, I examined them sufficiently to convince myself that they were not forged. Bhugwan Lal's orders being issued as before his suspension is not the case, he was suspended from all business, not an order, or a note even written by him; he was allowed to come to the cutcherree and sit in his usual place, making up by himself information required by Captain Aston relative to the customs of the country, succession to estates, and their management since first subjected to our supervision. Certainly the carcoon who transacted business with me did, by my direction, get information and instruction from him on, I believe, three important subjects, of the details and previous occurrences of which he was necessarily ignorant.

8. I am at present engaged on Mudhar Sing's accusation against Goolabraee, but if it turns out, as it appears at present probable, I shall, after recording his replies to the accusation by Nooroodeen and Hubeeb Khan, send him to resume his duty with Captain Aston.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency, Rajcote,
10 May 1845.

Enclosure 1 to Government Letter, No. 79; dated 10 May 1845.

Translation of Petition from *Shekh Nooroodeen*; dated 10 May 1845.

My representation is, that on the 8th May a shera was written to show to Hubeeb Khan and me, as follows: The inquiry into the accusation of bribery against Goolabraee has been stopt in consequence of Nooroodeen's sickness, and in the meantime your witnesses, Gandee Kuba and Russeedas have left; did they go with your leave or not? and if so, what is the reason for their going? My reply is this, that on the assurance of the sirkar's zaheernama, I, at private interviews with you, told of the corruption of Bhugwan Lall and Goolabraee with the items and the proofs, and names of witnesses which you wrote down in English, and some days after that you desired me to inform Mr. Valiant of the whole; I therefore told it to him, and he wrote it down, as I had done to you. I told him that I was not acquainted with the Government rules, but that if any item can be proved against these people it should be published, otherwise not, having thus said Mr. Valiant told me that having consulted you he would reply; and two days after that he said, that the item concerning the bullocks could be proved, and that I should petition on that; relying on this I petitioned, and as I was told, so I framed my petition; the rest of the items, according to Mr. Valiant's suggestion, I suppressed. I am not acquainted with forms,

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

forms, and whether these were properly suppressed or not. I do not know if it had not been for this, why should I have not stated all my true items of accusation. Thus, as above written, I have by your advice transacted this business, and I cannot perceive the reason of these items not having been considered proved, and you and Mr. Valiant said that these could be proved, how then can they now be disproved; on this I have my doubts. With my petition I send an English letter that my petition should not be read by any Nagur, and for this reason it remained unread for three days, and the order on it was in Bhugwan Lal's handwriting; so that he was informed of the contents, and in these three days you should consider whether backed by the power of his situation, he did or did not intimidate my witnesses. In the present order it is stated, that in consequence of Nooroodeen's illness, Goolabraee's business is stopt; but I have only been ill three days, and before that I had given in my petition with the names 1½ month, and daily brought the witnesses and waited at the Bungalow, but there was daily in taking their depositions; thus, therefore, the business has been improperly conducted.

It would have been proved against Bhugwan Lal that he took the bullocks as a bribe, but he forged a chopra to prove that he had purchased them. It is evident from these circumstances that this chopra was forged: 1st. That I was not in Rajkote at the time the entry was made, and he states that he gave the money before, but entered it on Falgoon wud 8th. This is not the custom in writing daily accounts; therefore it is certain, that this entry is false; 2d. The person through whom the korees were said to have been paid is dead, therefore this entry is false. If he paid the money to me why did he not take a receipt; because I was the karbarree of the Mangrole Durbar, and much business went through his hands, therefore it was necessary for him to take a receipt; without this receipt his accounts must be false. This chopra should have been shown to four respectable people to determine if it were true or false; and if their evidence has been taken, and the expenses and receipts examined, and examination made as to whether it was new or old ink, or the leaves changed, respectable people would have spoken as they had thought, and this item would before you have been proved or disproved; but there has not been a just inquiry, but the chopras he produced were considered true on his representation. This is not just; and if proper inquiry had been made, it would have been proved that this entry was forged, as previous to this inquiry his orders were issued to all, so during the progress of it he sat on his pillow in the kutcherree; and besides this, many of my witnesses concerning the bullocks have not been examined. Therefore, in consequence of just inquiry not having been made, I have sent to a friend to Bombay, Russeeddass, to make him acquainted with the whole for the information of the Governor in Council. Russeeddass is acquainted with several items, therefore I have sent him, so that when I have obtained from the principal Government, according to the custom of the Government, an answer that just inquiry shall be made, I shall be ready to carry it on. It is necessary that I should prove these bribes, therefore stop until I get a reply from Government that which concerns Goolabraee. This is my petition.

Obscure in the original.

(True translation.)

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

10 May 1845.

No. 6343.

MINUTE by the Honourable Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Crawford* and the Honourable Mr. *Reid.*

I THINK Mr. Malet's explanatory remarks on this petition are quite satisfactory, with this exception, that whilst Bugwan Lal was under suspension, he ought not to have been permitted to frequent the office, or to have been employed in any way by Captain Aston.

On this case generally, however, I beg to refer to my separate Minute on another petition from the same person, presented direct.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
J. H. Crawford.
L. R. Reid.

23 June 1845.

No. 6344.

Government, No. 81 of 1845.—General, No. 331 of 1845.

Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *J. P. Willoughby,* Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour, with reference to the last para. of my letter, No. 79 of the 10th instant, to transmit an English version of Goolabraee Ambashunkur's reply to Shaik Nooroodeen and Hubeeb Khan's accusations against him. I also enclose

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

enclose copy of a letter from Captain Aston to my address, dated 12th April, the 7th and 8th paras. of which are in direct reply to the accusations, and the whole of which, as bearing on the characters and motives of the principal actors, and the matters of business to which allusions are made in this petition, is of importance.

2. The Honourable the Governor in Council will observe, that Goolabraee makes no secret of his transactions with Mangrol previous to his entering into Government employ, nor of his receiving payment for them, nor of his recovery of money due to him by the shaik.

3. As to the transaction with the shop of Nursing Pursad Mahadooraee, the impropriety of Goolabraee's connexion with the firm has been noticed before by Government, and the firm is dissolved; I do not consider that Government will, therefore, attach any criminalty to that transaction.

4. I have directed Goolabraee to return immediately to his duty under Captain Aston.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency,
Rajkote, 15 May 1845.

Enclosure No. 1, to Government Letter, No. 81, dated 15 May 1845.

PETITION from *Goolabraee Amba Shunkur*, 13 May 1845.

MY petition is that Shaik Nooroodeen made representation, under date Falgoon Wud 10, No. 2440, which was shown to me, and on the 12th May I was ordered to reply to it. My reply is is follows:—

1. He states, that in 1896, in Jooreea, a mulberry chain, worth 1,000 koorees, and ready cash 1,000 koorees, were given to me, and that when we returned to Rajkote 1,500 koorees were given to me; all the explanation of this I stated to Captain Aston in Gogeh. Thus it occurred, and the proof and receipt is with me; and a copy of it is submitted for your consideration.

2. He states, that in Porbunder in 1897, he gave a chunden har and daleea. I was at that time on the Gondul sequestration, and came suddenly to Porbundur, hardly having anything with me. At Buntlee my shawl was stolen with Bhugwan Lal's box, and the memorandum is with the sirkar, and the contents of the box were compensated for; if any thing else of mine had been stolen, why should I not have entered it?

3. He states, that in 1899, I came from Dwarka to Mangrol, and that 22 venetians, one neck chain of 12 gudees, and some cloth not particularised were given. Nooroodeen's son's marriage was taking place, and Nooroodeen sent Anta Hoosen to Madhapoor to invite me, and I went. What he says about the venetians and neck chain is false; I know nothing whatever of it; but Mahadooraee was a friend, and he gave as a marriage present 200 koorees, and, according to the Bhomeea's custom, Nooroodeen gave to the children pugree, shela (head-dress and waistband, not shawls), and to the servants turbans. Mahadooraee informed me of this; he is here, and you can inquire from him.

4. He states, that in 1900, a kuntha was given to me. This is altogether false; he had to answer for this to Hubeeb Khan, and therefore has made up the accusation.

In the same para. it is also stated, that he gave me wood for building. I have not even been building a house, nor did I send for any wood; and the house alluded to is not mine, but my brother Mahdooraee's; he was in the Durbar's service on Nooroodeen's account, and he had a promise of service from Nooroodeen; if he sent for wood, I cannot be concerned in it. I believe that Nooroodeen and he have money transactions, because last year in Assoo (October), he (Madooraee) wrote to me to give him (Nooroodeen) 150 rupees, and I paid it to him through Shunganee Dhurumsee Kheemjee's shop; and now he (my brother) states, that this is not repaid, but that it is in their account. I did not write to him; but if on the price of anything an advantage would be gained, I should have written, for this does not appear a matter of any consequence.

5. What he has stated concerning the price of Hubeeb's Khan's articles is false. I have replied to it in Hubeeb Khan's business.

6. He states, that sooparee two bags, of koorees 65, rice two bags, of koorees 25, and 12 koorees for cart hire were given. I know nothing of this; I was living on geernar; Mahdooraee may have sent for them, and if Nooroodeen did not get the money, he could show the merchant's accounts, and take it; this would be part of their affairs. The firm of Nursing Pursad Mahadooraee claims from him 1,000 or 1,200 koorees, and the above written 150 rupees are due. Mahadooraee says, that if he has not received the money, he may take credit in the accounts with the firm. This can be no bribery.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Pecuniary transactions may exist which the sircar can justly investigate; these persons, while they are in authority, in all ways persuade the talookdars and obtain money, and when they quarrel with them put it on others; how can this succeed? The sircar has entrusted me with business, on which account people constantly come and go; and when anything happens to them they put forth such accusation as this; how can this succeed? This is my petition.

1901, Wyshak Shood, 7.
(13 May 1845.)

To Ajum Raja Shree Goolabraee Ambashunkur writes Shaik Nooroodeen to wit: In 1893. The jemadars were removed from Mangrol, on which account for your services, &c. korees 1,000 hoondee (there is a difference of 6 ¼ per cent. between hoondee and rokra) you required on my engagement; and in 1895, on your account, I received a sum from Mehta Nareandas Keekanee, and the cloths which from Joorea I sent for through you, for these, &c. are your claims. I, at Jooreea, a mulberry chain of 1,250 and red bullocks, gave to you, and gave you koorees, these, &c. were my claims on you, for these you require a deed of acquittance; and I now write, that having examined our accounts the claims were balanced; you have no claim on me, nor have I on you; at this date there is nothing between us. Sumvut 1898, Falgoon Shood 1st, by the hand of Nehalchund Anundram, by the order of his master.

(True translation.)

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

Note.—Nehalchund Anundram states before me, on the 15th May 1845, that the original receipt, purporting to be passed to Goolabraee Ambashunkur by Shaik Nooroodeen on the 1st Falgoon Shood, 1898, is in his (Nehalchund's) handwriting; that he was at that time in Nooroodeen's service, and that Nooroodeen directed him to write it, and that it was executed in Goolabraee's house in Rajkoot, Nooroodeen and Goolabraee being present.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

Enclosure No. 2, to Government Letter, No. 81, of 15 May 1845.

PETITION from *Goolabrae Ambashunkur*, dated 13 May 1845.

I REPRESENT that Hubeeb Khan has written a petition, dated Falgoon Wud 8th, recorded No. 2444, and a copy has been sent to me, and on the 12th May I was ordered to reply to it. He has stated that he gave to me a kura and a chain; and to obtain a favourable settlement 2,000 rupees were settled to be given; and after his business was ended, and he was not allowed to leave the town, that he had given to Shekjee three articles, and that on a quarrel concerning their value, he had sent to ask me, &c.

My reply in this: concerning the 2,000 rupees I know nothing whatever. As to what he says, that he was not allowed to leave Joonaghur, it is false, because Captain Aston gave him permission to go, and ordered that a sawar should be sent with him; but from the opposition of the Nuwab to the arrangemeut there was delay, and he of his own accord remained as you are aware. What he says about asking me the price is altogether false; what could I know of his ornaments? Shaik Nooroodeen and Hubeeb Khan used to come to my house, but never secretly, nor is there in my house room to be in private with Moosulmans. One day Hubeeb Khan was pressing Nooroodeen for the money, and said to me, do you determine it; at that time two or four men were at my house, I cannot exactly remember who, and I said at once, "This is a quarrel between near relations (uncle and nephew), I know nothing of it," and I went away shortly after to the river for this business. He has stated that some of his own people are witnesses, so that he has prepared it. I know nothing whatever of the gift of the chain or the bracelet; when he was sick I went to call on him as a respectable man; many people were there, and I was not there secretly, but just went in and stood; he spoke of his arrangements, and I said he had better make his petition to the sircar. So much passed.

When the ministry passed from him he had given a writing, and had to answer to the Nuwab, and to bias the Sahib. This business has been got up for his own benefit; for the rest, all this has been made up by him and Nooroodeen, and making their own domestics witnesses, they have made their petition; which if you inquire into you will be well aware of. This is my petition.

Wyshak Shood, 7.
(13 May 1845.)

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Enclosure No. 3, to Government Letter, No. 81, dated 15 May 1845.

From Captain *H. Aston*, First Assistant Political Agent in Katteewar, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, No. 226, enclosing three petitions, containing accusations of bribery against Goolabraee, by Hubeeb Khan, Nooroodeen, and Mudhar Sing.

2. Two days previous to its receipt, Goolabraee had shown me a note from his brother from Rajkote, informing him that accusations had been preferred against him by these persons, but the particulars he did not know; from the Palitana Wukeel, who had just arrived in my camp, he had heard, however, that the accusations related to bribery, and that it was said that the rest of the Political Agent's native establishment favoured the proceeding; that Kheta Wara, the wukeel, was an active agent in the business, and that Doolabjee Bhooj was a chief leader and director. Doolubjee Bhooj, Goolabraee added, was last year suspected of being concerned in the conspiracy of Bulwuntraee, and others at Joonaghur, to accuse Bhugwanlal and Goolabraee, through Jubbur Leeladhur at Joonaghur, from his intercommunication with persons at Joonaghur at that time; and it had been before stated that he had murmured discontent against Bhugwanlal and Goolabree for fancied injury to his karbaree interests through them. Goolabraee protested his innocence, and expressed his only fear to be that the business might not be thoroughly sifted in order to elicit the truth.

You have long known my opinion of Hubeeb Khan, formed, during my long residence at Joonaghur, while engaged in investigations connected with, and endeavouring to settle disputes between the Nuwab and his ex-ministers; it coincides with that of the Nuwab, that there is no villany of which he is not capable. The character of Nooroodeen I had little opportunity of personally ascertaining, but he is the relation of Hubeeb Khan, the minister long supported by Hubeeb Khan in power at Mangrol, against the strong opposition of the powerful local party who desired to eject him, and who since Hubeeb Khan's dismissal from office has been ejected, and his self-confessed embezzlement of property to the value of 2,000 rupees dishonest gains, committed to his trust by his relation and friend and supporter, Hubeeb Khan, would appear to place him in a light little above his relation. Mudhar Sing is he, who for his private ends became an informer against his chief in the Rajkote infanticide case; and ever since, presuming upon the protection afforded him against the Thakoor's authority, has been most obstinate in resisting a just settlement of disputed rights, and which nothing but coercion could at length induce him to accede to. You must remember how many conferences and references passed relating to the settlement of his grass dispute; with what great caution, and with how many warnings, proceedings were gradually advanced, and how long Mudhar Sing held out, even after the rest of his bhyad had settled on the same terms that he refused; and how long he held the house in Rajkote, to which he had no right, after being warned to quit, in consequence of the site being required by the chief in extending the buildings of the Durbar. The letter from Captain Lang, which he went all the way to Sudra to procure, is, I presume, the note to your address, forwarded by you to me at Joonaghur; it contained no allusion whatever, that I could perceive, to any malpractices of the Political Agent's establishment. It was a mere recommendatory note, relating to his disputed rights, but his case had, after most mature deliberation, been decided on long before. Madhar Sing is a man of very weak intellect, and his accusations two years ago against an attachment Mehta, the relation of Bhugwandal, after his death, of embezzelment of property of the sequestrated estate, proved on minute investigation to be most frivolous and false, led at that time to the inference that he had been instigated to make the accusations by some other designing person. Comparative impunity then, and the unsuccess in his suit since, would prepare him still more for an instrument of accusation.

4. It is proper to mention to you, that Doolubjee Bhooj, who was lately dismissed from two situations from Gondul, was a candidate for the situation of native agent, when Bhugwan Lal was preferred; and Kheta Wona was Jubbur Zeeladhur's corrupt agent at Joonaghur last year, openly convicted, or rather taken in the act of theft, the property being concealed on his person, in the confusion attending the surrender of Jubbur Zeeladhur after the seizure of his dwelling-house. He also took bribes from Juhbur Zeeladhur, but he was generally believed to be the man who caused the obstinate resistance of Jubbur Zeeladhur, which caused so much trouble, and involved his employer in so great distresses.

5. I will now make some remarks on the petitions received; and first, on that from Hubbeeb Khan. Before you left Joonaghur, on the 25th February 1844, you gave the Nuwab one month for settling with Hubeeb Khan, on producing proofs against him, in default of which he was to be dismissed from Joonaghur, liable however for anything proved against him in the next 18 months. The Nuwab had been determined, as you are aware, to detain him at all events; his hatred and his conviction of his guilt was too deep-rooted to be by any means eradicated. On the 26th February you left Joonaghur. On the 20th March, I warned the Nuwab, in writing, of the approaching termination of the period allowed, seeing that he had as yet done nothing in the business. A settlement was

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

soon after effected, and the Nuwab handed in the necessary document passed, but Hubeeb Khan not having handed in his dustawej, I inquired, in writing, on the 28th March, his reasons for not having done so. Upon this he handed his dustawej to me, but I returned it, directing him to send it through the regular channel, the Nuwab, and that if he had any objections, he could put them into writing in reply to my former demand of his reasons. On the 7th April, Unutjee was sent from Joonaghur to join your camp at Paletanna, and the detention of Hubeeb Khan henceforth depended wholly on his furnishing security for the fulfilment of the agreement, and for reappearing at Joonaghur when required to answer; and I repeatedly caused it to be intimated to him that he could leave whenever he would, on furnishing the security required; that he should after that be conducted away from Joonaghur whenever he wished. But his own personal convenience alone made him remain; in particular, he was unceasingly contending for rights or advantages, the securing the grasseas property that he had dishonestly caused him to write over to him, and the recovery of a large house, built in Koteeana, taken possession of by the Nuwab, were objects that he was pressing; and the excuse ever made for his not leaving was, that he had no house to go to; moreover, that he was engaged in settling the business of Daee Beebee and his sister, and his younger brother. In truth, as I heard from time to time, he was negotiating in Gondul and Bantwa, and perhaps elsewhere, for service and residence, and he closed with Bantwa about June, and gave 15,000 koorees cash to purchase certain advantages of service. Moreover, he complained that the Nuwab had threatened to turn him out of his Joonaghur house (that belonged to the Nuwab), and that he knew not where to go to. The settlement between Hubeeb Khan and the Nuwab in all its stages was referred to you, and whatever delays occurred in the Political Agent's department were those necessarily incident on references that required a considerable period to get answered. Hubeeb Khan was certainly not in want of money to bribe direct, if he wished, at Joonaghur, without doing it by the circuitous route of Mangrol, as is evident from his offer of 30,000 korees to Gondul for employment and privileges, and his actual payment of 15,000 korees to Bantwa; besides the large sums secured to be paid to the Nuwab in the settlement.

6. It is certainly possible that these ornaments, valued at 2,000 rupees, may have been given in bribes, as asserted by Nooroodeen, but considering the accusing party and the circumstances, no more assertions of these, or any others they bring forward, could well establish a probability of the fact: but it is certainly not at all improbable that, on being entrusted with the dishonest gains of Hubeeb Khan, should embezzle them and excuse himself for not returning them, by asserting that they were no longer in his possession, but had been given to the Political Agent's establishment. And Goolabraee states, that all the town know that they have long been disputing about the money, the value of the ornaments which Hubeeb Khan has been unable to get out of Nooroodeen; with respect to the other ornaments, said to have been kept by Nuthoo Jemadar, in his saddle-cloth at Rajkote, it certainly appears most extraordinary that after Nooroodeen had embezzeled 2,000 rupees worth of his ornaments, he should have committed 1,000 rupees worth more to the keeping of Nooroodeen's retainer.

7. With respect to Nooroodeen's petition, its commencement is remarkable, showing the spring of his accusations and cause. "That through the Joonaghur intrigues he had been turned out of office." He then adds the expression, Khuer! and proceeds with his accusations. With respect to bullocks given to Bhugwanlal at Pooreea, it is enough to say, that Bhugwanlal was at the time with me in Rajkote. With respect to the gold ornament, worth 1,000 korees, given at Jooreea in 1840, Goolabraee states that it is true that he received the ornament, but it is false that Sheengivee was present when he received it. It was given to him in consequence of his own demand to give him something in liquidation of what he owed him (Goolabraee at this time was not upon the Political Agent's establishment, but had just been entertained as an extra or acting mehta). The explanation is, that in 1836, when Goolabraee was not in Government employ, with the knowledge of Captain Lang who was there, he acted as a kind of vakeel or mediator between the parties at Mangrol, when the serious disturbance was threatened, and with great difficulty prevented; and effected a settlement between the people, who were in hostile array prepared for conflict; in reward for which he was to be paid 2,000 korees; 1,000 korees was paid at once by the public karbaree, Babajee, and Nooroodeen, their private karbaree, gave a promissory note (rooka) for the other 1,000 korees. Besides this sum of 1,000 korees, before going to Jooreea, Goolabraee advanced Nooroodeen some money, probably about 600 korees, and Goolabraee procured for him, while at Joorea, from Joonaghur some shawls and turbans. On account of these Nooroodeen gave the gold ornament. But some time after Goolabraee had been confirmed in the Government employ, he took an opportunity, when Nooroodeen was at Rajkote, to cause acquittances to be passed regarding all former dealings between them, and in these acquittances the above circumstances are alluded to, and also Goolabraee's purchase of two red bullocks from Nooroodeen at Rajkoot, after returning from Jooreea for, he thinks, 260 or 280 korees. Goolabraee had asked him to give these bullocks when he advanced the money to him, before he went to Jooreea.

8. With respect to the building materials which Nooroodeen says he paid for at Mangrol, value about 1,000 korees, Goolabraee's brother sent an agent last year to Mangrol, to buy such materials for a house then building by him in Joonaghur. It was an ordinary matter of business, adjusted or to be adjusted by his brother, 150 rupees, that Goolabraee knows

was

was afterwards advanced to Nooroodeen; but Nooroodeen had an account with the shop of Nursing Pursad and Madhooraee, and to which he is still indebted in the sum of about 1,500 korees probably. Of course any excuse to evade payment of this would be desirable. And with respect to all the money and valuables said by Nooroodeen to have been given, it may be remarked generally, that his admitted object in bringing forward the matter, is to get credit allowed for them in the settlement of his accounts with the Chief of Mangrol, who has lately dismissed him from office. In other words, to gain so much money.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

9. With respect to Madhar Sing's petition, it appears to me only confused and indefinite. It would appear that his accusation is principally against a vakeel, by whom, he would seem to say, he has been duped. The petition seems to bear internal evidence, from its peculiarity of expression, to have been written by some Deccanee; the original perhaps will enable you to trace the writer. Underjee, one of the persons through whom the 200 rupees is said to have been given to Goolabraee, has been dead for two years.

10. It is remarkable that the three petitions are all written within three or four days, being dated severally 31st March, 2d April, and 3d April.

11. Ere concluding, I crave your kind indulgence regarding this letter, which I have written in haste, and under great bodily weakness. The only object I have had in writing at such length is merely to attach your attention to the points embraced, in order that they may be in your view during the investigation. Of course I would not venture to write with any degree of confidence, that one with a salary so low compared with the temptations to which he may be surrounded, does not take presents from the people; but on looking back I cannot remember anything that can lead me to suspect that he has done anything from which I could now infer that he had been influenced unduly in any way by any party.

12. As Naka Mehta will probably be here this evening, I will cause my dufter to be transferred to him ere Goolabraee departs for Rajkote. He shall be despatched immediately Naka Mehta arrives; but the loss of his services at this time is particularly inconvenient, more especially with regard to the Gudra case, in which, besides the original chopras with the parties, there are between 400 or 500 Goozarattee documents, and I had arrived at that stage in the case in which the service of the mehta, who has been with me during the investigation, is especially required to aid me in references.

13. Below is a list of the persons mentioned as witnesses, with brief descriptions :—

Ruggunath. A needy mehta in Nooroodeen's employ, with a very small pay, probably 10 koorees a month.

Ata Hoosen. A foreigner, a Puthan, the confidential agent of Nooroodeen.

Gande Kubbur. A Baneean entertained by Hubeeb Khan, and placed by him in the Jamdar Kana, and dismissed thence when Hubeeb Khan was ejected from office.

Nuthoo Jemadar. In the employ of Nooroodeen, and ejected with him from office in Mangrol.

Shungwee Ladha. Nephew of Soondurjee Shungwee, who fled from Joonaghur when his notorious uncle was ejected, under whom he had been employed at Joonaghur.

Uhmud Khan. A kind of house slave of Nooroodeen's, against whom there was lately a complaint from Mangrol that he had run away with some of the chief's property; a low fellow.

Russeeddas. Is Nooroodeen's head mehta, on whom the Mangrol Bhaee has vowed vengeance, and lately placed his son under restraint.

Akoob Khan. An adventurer, a Puthan, lately said to have been in Bombay.

Underjee. Late karbarree of Jhaleea; has been dead two years.

Ghela Mehta. The wukeel of Dhurol.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Aston,*
12 April 1846. First Assistant Political Agent.

(True copy.)
(signed) A. Malet, Political Agent.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Crawford* and the Honourable Mr. *Reid.* No. 6345.

CAPTAIN ASTON'S letter throws considerable light on the conduct and motives of the accusers against the Political Agent's establishment, and the facts he mentions confirms the correctness of the conclusions we had arrived at, viz., that the accusations are false, originating with disappointed men discarded from office.

We have nothing to do with Goolabraee's pecuniary transactions before he entered the service of Government. We have already pointed out the incompatibility of a servant of Government having any pecuniary dealings in the province in which he is employed, Goolabraee has, in consequence, withdrawn

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

from them, and it will be the duty of the Political Agent to take care that they are not directly or indirectly renewed.

The Political Agent will also feel the necessity of maintaining a vigilant watch over his establishment, for it must be admitted that the scale on which they are paid is scarcely adequate with reference to the temptations with which they are surrounded.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
J. H. Crawford.
L. R. Reid.

23 June 1845.

No. 3189 of 1845.—Political Department.

No. 6346.

From *E. H. Townsend*, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters, dated the 10th and 15th May last, Nos. 79 and 81, regarding the accusations of bribery preferred by Sheikh Nooroodeen and others against Bhugwan Lal Mudunjee and Goolabraee Ambashunkur, of the Rajkote Agency.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you, that the explanatory remarks contained in your letter No. 79, on the petition from Shekh Nooroodeen, are considered by the Honourable the Governor in Council to be quite satisfactory; with the exception that, whilst Bhugwanlal was under suspension, he ought not to have been permitted to frequent the Political Agent's office, or to have been in any way employed by your first assistant, Captain Aston.

3. Captain Aston's letter to your address, dated the 12th April last, throws considerable light on the conduct and motives of the accusers against your native establishment; and the facts mentioned by that officer confirm the correctness of the conclusions at which Government had previously arrived, namely that the accusations are false, and have originated with disappointed men discarded from office.

4. The Governor in Council has no concern with Goolabraee's pecuniary transactions previous to his having entered the service of Government. The sentiments of the Governor in Council have already been communicated to you in regard to the incompatibility of a servant of Government having any pecuniary dealings in the province in which he is employed; Goolabraee has in consequence withdrawn from them, and it will be your duty to take care that they are not directly or indirectly renewed.

5. The Governor in Council relies on your maintaining a vigilant watch over your establishment; since the circumstances reported in your several communications to Government connected with the charges of bribery against them, prove that they are exposed to great temptations.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. H. Townsend,*
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
3 July 1845.

No. 6335.

PETITION from *Nooroodeen Kazumbaye*, late Minister of Mangrol, to Sir *G. Arthur*, Bart., Governor of Bombay.

Humbly showeth,

THAT your petitioner, being encouraged from the notification published by Mr. Malet that any complaints of bribery and corruption that would openly be made against his native establishment would be carefully investigated, stated to Mr. Malet several charges of bribery against the native agent Bhugwanlal. Mr. Malet took down in writing a statement, and desired your petitioner to state the same to Mr. Valiant, of the 1st Lancers; that gentleman also took a written statement from your petitioner, and on being asked if he felt satisfied that the charges were susceptible of proof, said that he would compare the statement given to him with the statement taken by Mr. Malet, and after consulting with that gentleman inform your petitioner if a complaint should openly

openly be made. A short time after Mr. Valiant sent for your petitioner, and informed him that Mr. Malet was of opinion that the charges would be substantiated, and desired that a petition should be given in. Feeling assured from this that a proper investigation would be made, he gave in a Guzarattee petition, with a note in English requesting that the substance of the petition might not be made known to the party accused or to his relatives, and that the evidence of the witnesses mentioned in the Guzarattee petition should be taken immediately. This request was not attended to; the petition for three days was in the possession of the party accused, read by him to the Political Agent, and the reply to it also written by him; the witnesses were not examined till after one month. In this manner the proceedings were irregularly conducted, and it would be impossible to state the whole in this petition. Your petitioner, observing the irregularity, petitioned to Mr. Malet that, as he did not conduct the proceedings properly, he was not desirous of carrying on the investigation further by him, and had petitioned to the Honourable the Governor in Council that another gentleman might be appointed to investigate the charges; a translation of this petition has been sent to your honour. Your petitioner therefore humbly begs that as he possesses the means of substantiating not only the charges already preferred, but many others from sahookar's chopras, that your honour will be pleased to appoint another gentleman to conduct the investigation; and he feels quite confident that the charges now disproved will be found correct, and that many other charges will be proved against Bhugwanlal and Goolabraee.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

In conclusion, your petitioner begs leave to state, that others who were prepared to prefer serious charges of bribery against the parties above-mentioned, seeing the unjust way in which the investigation was being carried on, desisted from their intention. For instance, the Choora Raupoor's vakeel stated to Mr. Valiant and produced evidence of a charge of extensive bribery, but is now afraid to come forward. Such being the state of things, your petitioner humbly begs to repeat his prayer that another gentleman be appointed to carry on the investigation, and that he has sent a person to Bombay to represent to your Honour in person what he has briefly stated here; and begs that, till he arrives, and makes known to your Honour the state of things, no definite decision may be come to.

Your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

(signed) *Nooroodeen Hazumbaye,*
Late Minister of Mangrol.

Rajkote, 14 May 1845.

No. 6336.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Crawford* and the Honourable Mr. *Reid.*

PETITIONER'S request appears to me to be altogether inadmissible.

Mr. Malet has investigated all the charges adduced against his establishment with impartiality, and an anxious desire to elicit the truth, and has acquitted them on every charge.

Government has confirmed his proceedings, and I see no cause for further notice or inquiry.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
J. H. Crawford.
L. R. Reid.

23 June 1845.

No. 6337.

No. 3185 of 1845.—Political Department.

From *E. H. Townsend,* Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to *Shekh Noordeen,* late Minister of Mangrol, Rajkote.

1. IN reply to your petition, dated the 14th May last, I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to inform you that Mr. Malet, the Political Agent in Katteewar, has with impartiality investigated the several charges preferred by yourself and other parties against his native establishment, and has

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

acquitted them on every charge. Mr. Malet's decisions have been confirmed by Government, and your request, therefore, for the appointment of another officer to re-investigate these charges cannot be complied with.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle,
3 July 1845.

(signed) *E. H. Townsend,*
Secretary to Government.

No. 3186 of 1845.

COPY of the above letter to be sent by endorsement to the Political Agent in Katteewar for information.

Bombay Castle,
3 July 1845.

(signed) *E. H. Townsend,*
Secretary to Government.

No. 6557.

EXTRACT Bombay Political Consultation, 16 July 1845.

SHAIK NOORDEEN, inhabitant of Mangrole, in a petition, dated the 18th April 1845, solicits that some other officer than Mr. Malet, the Political Agent in Katteewar, may be appointed to investigate certain charges of bribery advanced by him against Bhugwunlall, the native agent: Ordered, that the petitioner be informed, by endorsement, through the Persian Department, that the decision of Government, communicated to him from the Political Department on the 3d instant, is final.

Bombay Castle, 10 July 1845.

No. 3306 of 1845.—Political Department.

THE petitioner should be informed, by endorsement through the Persian Department, that the decision of Government, communicated to him from the Political department on the 3d instant, is final.

By order of the Honourable the Governor in Council.

Bombay Castle,
10 July 1845.

(signed) *E. H. Townsend,*
Secretary to Government.

No. 6622.

MANKHAND WULLUD VULEE KHAN, in a petition, dated the 28th May 1845, represents the hardships under which he is labouring, and prays that certain landed property, situated in the province of Katteewar, may be restored to him: Ordered, that the petitioner be referred to the Political Agent in Kattewar, who has been furnished with the instructions of Government in regard to his case.

Bombay Castle, 12 July 1845.

No. 3334 of 1845.—Political Department.

THE petitioner is referred to the Political Agent in Kattywar, who has been furnished with the instructions of Government in regard to his case.

By order, &c.

Bombay Castle,
12 July 1845.

(signed) *E. H. Townsend,*
Secretary to Government.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 23 July 1845.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 6823.

SUBSTANCE of a PETITION from *Shah Manchund Ummursing*, Inhabitant of Umrelee Purgunna, to the Honourable the Governor in Council, dated 8th, and received 17th June 1845.

SOME time back I represented to Government that the native agent in Katteewar and Goolabroy, the sherustedar of the Assistant Political Agent, had received bribes to the amount of lacs of rupees through Dullal Umrutlal and Unnutjee Umurchund, and I requested that a sheristedar might be appointed to read papers. When Government referred the petition to the Political Agent, he issued a proclamation, to the effect, that Government would listen to the complaints which might be made to him on the subject of bribes. As, however, no one could place confidence in Mr. Malet, the Political Agent, Shaik Noor Deen, karbharee at Mangrole, and Hubeeb Khan, karbharee at Joonagur, represented certain matters to him through Lieutenant Valiant. Afterwards Mr. Malet directed the complainants to make a complaint on four particular subjects. Accordingly they submitted a petition, and Mr. Malet suspended the native agent and the Assistant Political Agent's sherustedar from their offices. For four days we thought that a fair inquiry would be instituted. Afterwards Mr. Locke, of Sobhawriout, was deputed to examine the account books of the sahookar of Joonagur. This gentleman, having found entries of bribes, with the names of the parties to whom they were given, set about preparing a memorandum. In the meantime, Unnutjee, karbharee at Joonagur, reported to Mr. Malet that Mr. Locke was examining the account books of the sahookar's, and he, Mr. Malet, wrote to Mr. Locke not to examine any one's account books, but to return to Sobhawurut. Mr. Locke did so, transmitting to the Political Agent a memorandum regarding the account books which he had examined. When the charges were about to be established, the karbharees and Mr. Malet combined together; and the latter, having given some advice to the former, prolonged the proceedings. Afterwards, agreeably to the advice of the Political Agent, the karbharees suborned and brought forward certain evidence. Mr. Malet admitted the evidence, and the charges were not proved. Afterwards he wrote to Government, and restored the karbharees to their offices. Agents of Hubeeb Khan and Noor Deen have, therefore, gone to Bombay. As the karbharees and the Political Agent are combined together, I see no use in preferring any complaint here; owing to enmity, no one can get his case fairly settled. Many persons are being ruined. There are many judicial officers in the service of Government; and if a European officer be deputed to this zilla, with a karbharee not belonging to the Nagur caste, I will prove all the charges of bribery. If your Honour in Council cannot depend upon my statements, Gokba and Mehta Russeekdass, agents of Noor Deen and Hubeeb Khan, who have gone to Bombay, will, if called upon, furnish every information regarding me. I do not appear before the Political Agent, because he writes to the chief to whose jurisdiction a complaint belongs, and gets him (the chief) to banish the complainant from his country.

(signed) *W. Escombe*,
Secretary to Government.

COPY of a LETTER from the Secretary to Government in the Persian Department, to *Shah Manchund Ummersing*, Inhabitant of Umrelee.

Government Resolutions, Political Department, No. 3431, of 1845.

WITH reference to your petition, dated the 8th ultimo, I am directed to inform you that Mr. Malet, the Political Agent in Katteewar, has with impartiality investigated the several charges preferred by you and other parties against that officer's native establishment, and has acquitted them on every charge.

I am further directed to inform you, that Mr. Malet's decisions have been confirmed by Government, and that your request for the appointment of another officer, to re-investigate these charges, cannot therefore be complied with.

(signed) *W. Escombe*,
Secretary to Government.

21 July 1845.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Crawford* and the Honourable Mr. *Reid*.

No. 6824. A SIMILAR reply should be returned to this person to that given on the 3d instant, to Shekh Moordeen, late minister of Mangrole, on the same subject.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
J. H. Crawford.
11 July 1845. *L. R. Reid.*

No. 3431 of 1845.

No. 6825. RESOLUTION of Government in the Political Department.

WITH reference to the translation from Shah Manchund Ummersing, inhabitant of Umeelee, dated the 8th ultimo: Resolved, that the petitioner be informed through the Persian Department, that Mr. Malet, the Political Agent in Kattywar, has, with impartiality, investigated the several charges preferred by petitioner and other parties against that officer's native establishment, and has acquitted them on every charge.

Resolved further, that the petitioner be informed that Mr. Malet's decisions have been confirmed by Government, and that his request for the appointment of another officer to re-investigate these charges cannot, therefore, be complied with.

(signed) *E. H. Townsend,*
Bombay Castle, 21 July 1845. Secretary to Government.

No. 3432 of 1845.

COPY of the above to be sent by endorsement to the Political Agent in Kattywar for his information.

No. 6904. EXTRACT Bombay Political Consultation, 30 July 1845.

SHEIK MEYA NOORDEEN, of Mangrole, in a petition through his Metta Russeedass Callianjee, dated the 12th July 1845, solicits redress from Government on account of the oppression exercised towards him by certain individuals at Mangrole. Ordered, that the petition be returned, with an intimation that as it is not signed by the party in whose behalf it is addressed, it cannot be received by Government.

Bombay Castle, 24 July 1845.

No. 3477 of 1845.—Political Department.

THIS petition is returned, with an intimation, as it is not signed by the party in whose behalf it is addressed, it cannot be received by Government.

By order of the Honourable the Governor in Council,
(signed) *E. H. Townsend,*
Bombay Castle, 24 July 1845. Secretary to Government.

No. 6905. HUBBIB KHAN, late kharbarry at Joonaghur, in a petition through his Metta Gandy Cubba Woothan, dated the 12th July 1845, solicits the interference of Government in causing his release from imprisonment at Joonaghur: Ordered, that the petition be returned, with an intimation that, as it is not signed by the party in whose behalf it is addressed, it cannot be received by Government.

Bombay Castle, 24 July 1845.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 3478 of 1845.—Political Department.

THIS petition is returned, with an intimation that, as it is not signed by the party in whose behalf it is addressed, it cannot be received by Government.

By order of the Honourable the Governor in Council,

(signed) *E. H. Townsend*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 24 July 1845.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 30th July 1845.

Government, No 114 of 1845.—General, No. 495 of 1845.

Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *E. H. Townsend*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay. No. 7137.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 3189.

2. With reference to the concluding part of the 2d para., I perceive that the expressions in my letter No. 79 have led to a supposition that Captain Aston employed Bhugwan Lal while he was under suspension. This was not the case; the error was entirely my own. Captain Aston's name was introduced merely to show the entire separateness of the business which I allowed him to perform from his usual duties. Captain Aston did not even know that he was performing the work alluded to.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency, Rajkote,
10 July 1845.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Crawford* and the Honourable Mr. *Reid*. No. 7138.

THIS explanation removes the blame from Captain Aston to Mr. Malet, who ought not to have committed the error. This may be recorded.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
J. H. Crawford.
L. R. Reid.

24 July 1845.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 13 August 1845.

To Sir *George Arthur*, Bart., Governor and President in Council, Bombay. No. 7451.

The Humble PETITION of *Madar Sing*, of Trumbah, Prant Katteewar.

Humbly showeth,

THAT on the assurance of the Razeenama from the Political Agent, that a proper investigation would be made on charges of bribery preferred against the native establishment of this agency, your petitioner complained to the Political Agent that Bhugwunlal and Goolabraee had taken from him an agreement through their relation, Anunjee Kutchee, for 5,000 korees. In this agreement no name was inserted; and that Goola Braee had received a bribe from him of one silver tora and 200 rupees cash, through Anunjee Kutchee. The investigation of these charges was very improperly conducted, and it would be irksome to state particulars to Government. Your petitioner, seeing the improper way the proceedings were conducted, petitioned to Mr. Malet in Guzerattee, pointing out the irregularities, and requesting that the investigation might be stopt till he petitioned the Government. This petition was destroyed, and the pieces sent

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

to him. A translation of the petition, with the pieces of the original, your petitioner begs herein to enclose for your honour's information, from which your honour will be satisfied that a proper investigation had not been carried on. Your petitioner possessing sufficient proof to substantiate the charges, he will in consequence leave this day for Bombay, personally to lay the whole before your honour; and has only to beg that a proper and public investigation of the charges may be directed, for which your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

(signed) *Madar Sing*,
Grassiah of Trumbah.

16 May 1845.

Translation of a Petition from *Madar Sing*, Grassiah of Trombah, &c., to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent, Katteewar; dated St. 1901, Whysak Sood.

My petition is this: That the Karbarees of your Hoozoor Bhugwanlal and Goolabraee took from me as a bribe a written agreement, through a third person, of 5,000 korees, in which no name is inserted; and Goolabraee took a silver tora of 105½ tolas, and 200 rupees cash, through a third person. This I informed the sirkar on the assurance of your notification. My reasons for bringing to the notice of the sirkar these bribes were, that the receivers of them might be punished, and the practice of receiving bribes stopped; but on observing your improper way of conducting the investigation, I lost all hopes of success. The investigation, instead of being conducted publicly, was being conducted in a private manner. If you consider that a private investigation would be advantageous, it appears to me quite profitless, as the witnesses ought, on my complaints being sent in, been examined unawares to Bhugwanlal; but this was not done, and before the investigation was completed, you requested me to state that my complaints were false. This was not proper, but my complaints are true and proveable; and if you will properly investigate them, I am ready to establish them. I briefly state the improper way in which the proceedings were conducted.

1. My petition complaining of the bribes, and in which I mentioned the names of my witnesses, was given in 1½ month ago, during which time Bugwan Laul and Goolabraee were under suspension, and the investigation was neither carried on nor the witnesses examined; but on the day on Bhugwanlal's restoration the investigation commenced. Such delay, after giving in the names of witnesses, is not proper; and that the investigation should commence on the restoration of Bhugwanlal tended only to intimidate my witnesses.

2. In the investigation, whatever statement Bhugwanlal gave in, and what my witnesses stated, was not done before me. It was not proper to investigate the case in the presence of the party accused, and not in the presence of the complainant. The Government rule is, that the party accused of bribery should be suspended during the investigation. If he had been suspended and present at the inquiry it would be different; but this was not the case. The investigation in this business was improperly carried on.

3. For instance, the petition complaining of the bribes was written by Jeewa Bhooj; in which was written that the agreement for 5,000 korees would be proved by the person who wrote it, that it was written for Bhugwanlal as a bribe. This agreement was also written by Jeewa Bhooj. How, then, could he deny it, when both were written in his own hand-writing? And that you may be satisfied of the truth of it, this petition is also written by Jeewa Bhooj; should he have denied it in the presence of Bhughwunlal, his writing the former petition, the agreement, and the present petition are proofs that he had written the agreement for Bhugwanlal. Anunjee Kutchee is Bugwunlal's relation and caste fellow, in whose presence the whole business was transacted; he may now deny it to save Bhugwunlal, but from the evidence of the other witnesses already, and those not yet examined, the matter would be proved. But from the unjust way the investigation was carried on, I am not willing to produce them; but the greatest proof is your own sheras. Your first shera stated that I would not receive my huk; and, after I had given the agreement of the bribes to Bhugwunlall and Goolabraee, your second shera stated, that I would

would receive my huk, how is this; in my second petition for my huk I did not state anything more or less than I had stated in my first; from this it appears evident, that it was the doings of the Karbarres. My request is, therefore, that you will stop the investigation of my complaint till I petition the Government, and till another gentleman or yourself be directed to make an open investigation when this order comes from the Government. I am fully prepared to substantiate my charges.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 3268 of 1846.—Political Department.

The Political Agent in Kattewar is requested to report whether there is any truth in the statement made by the petitioner, that a representation which he made to the Political Agent was destroyed, and the pieces sent to him.

By order, &c.
(signed) *E. H. Townsend*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 8 July 1846.

Government, No. 117 of 1845.—General, No. 508 of 1845.

Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Kattewar to *E. H. Townsend*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay. No. 7452.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your order, No. 3268, July 8th, enclosing petition from Mudar Sing Jarijah, of Tramba, and requiring me to report whether a representation he made to the Political Agent was destroyed, and the pieces sent to him.

2. Jarijah Mudar Sing made a petition to me, which was torn up by my order, and so returned to him.

3. Mudar Sing requested me to put off the examination into his accusation, but having the witnesses present, I did not consider it necessary, and therefore carried it on and completed it. After this, he sent in his petition for delay, which, as I had before decided on and had finished the case, I tore up and returned.

4. I may here state, that it is my custom to return all petitions on the common business of the country, which are not written according to the rules laid down for the guidance of the vakeels in framing them; and all petitions, after final orders are given, unless their contents merit attention, are destroyed and returned.

I have, &c.
signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency,
Rajkote, 18 July 1845.

P. S.—The order and enclosures are returned, copies being kept for record.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Minute by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Crawford* and the Honourable Mr. *Reid*. No. 7453.

Mr. Malet should, I am of opinion, be informed that Government disapproves of the system which he states he is in the habit of adopting, of destroying and returning to petitioners, representations which they may present to him, after a decision has been once passed in their cases. This system is improper, and should be discontinued.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

2. It is quite sufficient in any case in which a further petition is presented, after a final decision has been passed, simply to return the petition, with an intimation by endorsement, that the decision already passed is final. This plan is adopted in the Secretariate, and should be followed by the Political Agent in Katteewar.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
J. H. Crawford.
L. R. Reid.

9 August 1845.

No. 3767 of 1845.—Political Department.

No. 7454. From *E. H. Townsend*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent at Kattewar.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 18th ultimo, No. 117, reporting the mode in which petitions received in your office are disposed of.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you, that the Honourable the Governor in Council disapproves of the system which you state you are in the habit of adopting, of destroying and returning to petitioners, representations which they may present to you, after a decision has been once passed in their cases.

3. I am desired to inform you, that it is quite sufficient in any case in which a further petition is presented, after a final decision has been passed, simply to return the petition, with an intimation by endorsement, that the decision already passed is final. This plan is adopted in the Secretariate and other Government offices, and the Governor in Council requests that you will be pleased to follow this course in future.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. H. Townsend,*
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 8 August 1845.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 3 September 1845.

No. 8247. GANDEE CUBBA WOOTUMCHUND on behalf of Hubbib Khan, late kharbarry at Joonaghur, in two petitions, dated the 12th and 29th July 1845, states that his master has been imprisoned by the Joonaghur authorities, and solicits the interference of Government in obtaining his release. Ordered, that the above petitions be again returned, with an intimation that Government has resolved not to receive any representations upon this subject from the individual by whom these petitions purport to be addressed.

Bombay Castle, 3 September 1845.

No. 4212 of 1845.—Political Department.

THESE petitions are again returned, with an intimation that Government has resolved not to receive any representations upon this subject from the individual by whom these petitions purport to be addressed.

By order, &c.
(signed) *E. H. Townsend,*
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 3 September 1845.

No. 8248. RUSSEEDASS KULHANJEE in behalf of Shaik Meya Noordeen, of Mangrole, in two petitions, dated the 12th and 29th July 1845, states that his master has been imprisoned by the Mangrole authorities, and solicits the interference of Government in obtaining his release. Ordered, that the above petitions be again returned, with an intimation that Government has resolved not to receive any representations upon this subject from the individual by whom these petitions purport to be addressed.

Bombay Castle, 3 September 1845.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 4213.—Political Department.

These petitions are again returned, with an intimation that Government has resolved not to receive any representations upon this subject from the individual by whom these petitions purport to be addressed.

By order, &c.
(signed) *E. H. Townsend,*
Bombay Castle, 3 September 1845. Secretary to Government.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 10 September 1845.

Government, No. 138 of 1845.—General, No. 579. No. 8508.

Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *E. H. Townsend*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to the second paragraph of Captain Aston's letter of the 12th May, transmitted in my letter, No. 83, of the 16th May, in which it is stated that persons proceeding to Bombay were endeavouring to engage a Parsee vakeel named Dadabhye Framjee for the furtherance of their accusations against the native establishment of the Katteewar Agency, I have the honour to transmit, in original, a letter from him disclaiming any concern in it.

2. A perusal of the letter will show that I could not well transmit a copy, and as he appears to think his disclaimer of consequence, it would not be just to him to withhold it.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet,*
Katteewar Political Agency, Rajkote, Political Agent.
22 August 1845.

Arthur Malet, Esq., Political and Resident, Katteewar.

Bombay, 13 August 1845.

Respected Sir,

With humble submission I beg most respectfully crave leave to address you this lines, hoping that it will meet your justiceful consideration, and excuse the liberty I have taken to lose your valuable time. The infinite favours you have bestowed on me while my short stay at Rajkote, and the unlimited kindness with which I met due honours, for which I have to express my apologies in neglecting to thank you, but I have been particularly indebted for.

The impression that has just noticed in my mind in the present occasion to trouble you with this—in fact, it would otherwise cause a strongest foundation, since I am not in the slightest way concerned to,—the fact to which I now beg to allude, that some person having made misrepresentations to my liabilities in connexion with the case of Bhugwunlall, which are conducted under the management of Noorodin, whereto I have not a least interference to enlighten your Honour, I must here observe to the truth of my assertion; I affirm upon oath, which is in the belief of God, and I hope you will be assured to without leaving a spot to any annoyance.

I regret I should have idea to a measure to attempt describing others who are actually employed in this tradition, and I cannot here avoid observing the circumstance with a view to remove such misrepresentations on my part which might have naturally placed, *i. e.* Kubay, one of the suspended Musulman, with the injunction of Narroba, a writer, are the leading parties in this co-operation; and in some instances I have observed them and others consulting with the aid of Juggennath Sunkersett, whom I have little doubt you may have been rightly informed of, if a suggestion should have been founded upon. These are the persons in principality.

I would flatter myself to say that I should be so averse in the expectation or of any derivation from this malicious, though base a business, although so far from these concerns, and having experienced the practice of the Government regulations, which would leave me a ground to hope that I should attempt against the responsibility of any politics, beside which it would be increditable in oppressing these lawless acts even to access upon. To deal

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

with these persons, I am aware it would certainly prove fatal than they might otherwise would be.

I have, and would be for ever, to your merciful favours with which I have had the honour, and in expectation to meet your compassionate kindness and favours as hitherto done upon me.

I remain, &c.
(signed) *Dadabhye Framjee Vakeel.*

No. 8509.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Crawford* and the Honourable Mr. *Reid.*

THIS letter does not seem to require notice, and may be recorded.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
J. H. Crawford.
L. R. Reid.

5 September 1845.

No. 8616.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 17 September 1845.

HUBIB KHAN, late kharbarry at Joonaghur, in a petition through his metta, Gandy Cubba Wootham, dated the 16th August 1845, solicits the interference of Government in causing his release from imprisonment at Joonaghur. Ordered, that the petition be returned, with an intimation that Government has resolved not to receive any representations upon this subject from the individual from whom this petition purports to proceed.

Bombay Castle, 17 September 1845.

No. 4416 of 1845.—Political Department.

THIS petition is returned with an intimation that Government has resolved not to receive any representations upon this subject from the individual from whom this petition purports to proceed.

By order, &c.
(signed) *E. H. Townsend,*
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 17 September 1845.

(True extract.)
(signed) A. Malet, Offg. Chief Secretary.

No. 9439.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 29 October 1845.

From Mr. *Henry Foster*, Head Accountant, Kattywar Political Agency, to *C. J. Erskine*, Esq., Private Secretary to the Honourable the Governor, Bombay.

Sir,

IN transmitting the enclosed statement to your address, I beg respectfully to solicit you will have the goodness to submit it to his Excellency the Honourable the Governor at your earliest convenience.

2. Most urgently entreating that the same will be received and treated as a special case, and in the humble hope that it may meet with His Excellency's most indulgent consideration and support,

I beg, &c.
(signed) *Henry Foster,*
Head Accountant, Kattewar Pol. Agency.

Rajcote,
1 October 1845.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

To the Honourable Sir *George Arthur*, Bart., K. C. H., Governor of Bombay, &c. &c. &c.

Your Excellency,

It is with considerable pain and reluctance that I feel compelled to address your Excellency on the present occasion, relative to a complaint against my superior, Mr. Malet, the Political Agent in Katteewar; but as I had for some time past been subjected to very unusual treatment at his hands, and on several occasions written to by him in a tone which I consider to be quite overbearing and unauthorised, having, during the whole course of my public career, extending to a period of nearly 21 years, never been accustomed to such language, I feel myself much aggrieved and quite disheartened for business, and therefore find I have no other alternative but respectfully to appeal to your Honour against such conduct, in the humble but earnest hope that the circumstances herein set forth may be impartially considered, and redress afforded me.

2. Before entering into the subject-matter of my complaint, I beg very respectfully to precede it by a short notice of my services in this Agency. On the 1st February 1841, at the recommendation of Mr. Blane, then Political Agent in Katteewar, I was appointed to the situation of head clerk to this Agency, on 150 rupees per mensem. In August following I had, in addition to this, been allowed by Captain Jacob, then first assistant in charge, 30 rupees as superintendent of attachments; and, in July 1842, a further increase by the same officer of 20 rupees as superintendent of Mohsuls, by which my salary was made up to 200 rupees. In February 1843, on the situation of head accountant to this Agency being vacant, I was promoted to it, on the fixed salary of 200 rupees, and as a consideration, I believe, for conducting the higher and more responsible duties of the office and also as a sense of my services, was permitted to retain the allowance of my additional appointments, by which my salary was made up to 250 sicca rupees. I am induced at this time to mention these particulars, in the hope that they may lead your Excellency to form an opinion favourable as well of my attainments as of my conduct and character.

3. I beg now very respectfully to submit the following statement, and as it has reference to events of some distant dates, to crave indulgence for intruding on your Excellency's time with the following lengthened detail. In February 1844, certain vouchers were received from the Audit-office for counter signature. These vouchers were not for any actual payments from the Rajkote treasury, but were sent by the general paymaster and military paymaster, N. D. A., merely for adjustment in the agency books, for payments made by them on account of this Agency. I therefore considered Mr. Malet's counter signature was not necessary to such vouhcers; and it is well known that, in taking up my duties of head accountant, and bringing up the arrears, there was not a single individual in the office who could tell me of the usual course of business. My inexperience therefore led to the omission, though I beg it may be borne in mind, that as the whole of the vouchers are invariably submitted with the monthly cash account for signature, Mr. Malet might have himself countersigned them without any reference to me. But without any explanation being called from me regarding the omission of his counter signature to the vouchers, I received the note (No. 1) from Mr. Malet, who was then out on his tour at Joonaghur, threatening me with dismissal should a similar irregularity occur. When it is seen by Mr. Malet's own note, calling on me to "point out the disbursements in the Daily-book," that he laboured under an error in supposing that the vouchers were for payments made from his treasury, which alone need be inserted in the Daily-book, instead that the vouchers were for payments made by other departments on account of this Agency, which, as a matter of course, are necessarily omitted in the Daily-book; and conscious also of never having given the smallest cause for displeasure in the performance of my duties, I beg leave very respectfully to submit to your Excellency how far such language was deserved; and, even if deserved, how hurtful such treatment must have been naturally felt by me, to see that a note from the Political Agent, threatening me with dismissal, should be sent to me opened, through a junior clerk of the department. After offering Mr. Malet an explanation regarding the nature of the vouchers, and the cause, as above stated, of the omission of his counter signature to them, I was led to solicit

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

from him the favour of effecting my transfer to some other public office, even on a reduced salary, preferring to undergo a pecuniary sacrifice rather than risk the pain and disgrace of dismissal; for in a department of accounts, I am humbly of opinion that it is a matter of difficulty to be too careful. Mr. Malet told me, in reply, that it was not in his power to effect my transfer, and that I could not leave before a successor was found in my place. I would here respectfully observe, whether the inconsiderate manner I had been treated was not enough to drive, however reluctant, any subordinate who felt any respect for his position at once to relinquish his appointment; and indeed, were it not for the kind advice of a gentleman now here, I would at the time have imprudently tendered my resignation, and quietly sought employment elsewhere. Mr. Malet returned to Rajkote on the 13th June following. I waited on him the following day, with my subordinates, to pay my respects. In the midst of my discouragements, and these were not a few, I had the satisfaction to learn that he was quite satisfied with my exertions during his absence for a little more than seven months, and I should think it could not otherwise have been the case, having had all the accounts despatched from Rajkote to Bombay and elsewhere within the prescribed dates, though, in the first instance, I had to send them out for Mr. Malet's signature to his camp, which for some time halted at the distant stages of Palitana and Bhownuggur.

4. Some time in August 1844 I was sent for by Mr. Malet, and questioned as to whether I was acquainted with a man by the name of "Man Khan"; I said, as far as I can now recollect, that I saw such a man only the previous morning, while I was out in my ride along the east face of the Rajkote River, where in the hearing of the Camp Chowdry, a Parsee named "Sorabjee," and in the presence of thousands who came to the river either for water or to bathe themselves, and without ever being spoken to by me, he said, "Sir, the Saheb (meaning Mr. Malet), has sent a horseman to Joonaghur for the chopras, with which I could be able to substantiate my accusations against Bhugwan Lal, the native agent; this is true, but it is no less true, that long before this was done, Bhugwan Lal despatched two cossids post haste to his friend and relative, Unutjee Umurchund, the minister of Joonaghur, to conceal them, and that under this circumstance, I make quite certain the chopras will not be coming;" begging me at the same time to speak on the subject to Mr. Malet. I observed to him, that if such was the case, his best plan would be to go to Mr. Malet and report the matter himself. Upon this he followed me as I was going from him, and stated that he finds it a matter of difficulty to approach the Agency bungalow, as the peons were on the alert about him, much less therefore of seeing Mr. Malet; that he had consequently been to several gentlemen (mentioning names), to use their influence on his behalf, but that all had desired him to petition, stating that the sirkar would listen, and urged again that I should intercede on his behalf. Upon this, I reiterated what I had already told the man, and after telling him that I was sorry it was not in my power to help him, I rode off, leaving the man, after speaking to him for about seven or ten minutes furthest, in almost the same spot he met me.* Mr. Malet, after hearing all this, observed to me that Captain Aston had mentioned the matter to him, but not as a complaint. I would here beg very respectfully to submit to your Excellency, whether it was correct in Mr. Malet to question me at all on such a circumstance, if it was not preferred as a complaint against me; but it has always been my impression, from the manner I had been spoken to, that it was done either with a view to bring about a complaint against me, if possible, or that it may have the effect of intimidating me even in listening in future to representations of a like nature. The man was seen speaking to me in one of the most public places, and I had not the smallest cause for previously knowing what Mr. Malet's opinion of him was; and I consider it hard, therefore, that a matter so trivial in itself should be received by Captain Aston as a fit subject to notice, he being the Political Agent, and moreover, that I should be questioned

* Being unable, under these circumstances, to substantiate his accusations against Bhugwan Lal, the man "Mankhan" was put in irons, and thrown into gaol; and he was kept there long after the receipt of the Government letter, 11 October 1844, No. 3115, directing that he should not be made over to the Nuwab of Joonaghur; but the circumstance of his being detained in gaol fettered, was not reported.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

questioned by Mr. Malet regarding it; and I beg leave here most respectfully to observe, that unless undue encouragement was given, neither the native agent nor the karkoon attached to Captain Aston, would have presumed to represent such a frivolous circumstance to my superiors, doubtless with the view, as it affected their characters, of prejudicing me in their opinion. I am induced to mention this circumstance, as it more particularly marks the date from which I had been subjected to a series of discouragements in my public duties. Although Mr. Malet, on assuming charge of the Agency, while with Captain Jacob in the office, enjoined me to make no difference in the way of business, still he has been pleased to allow my duties to be much trenched on by the native agent. References connected with the department of accounts, which had been hitherto sent for explanation direct to the head accountant, and thus giving him every opportunity as the head of the accounts, of keeping himself thoroughly acquainted with them in every department of the Agency, are now made through the native agent, to the native accountant and treasurer. Leave, either for holidays or on account of sickness, which was hitherto applied for the native accountant and Treasury establishment by the head accountant, as being under his immediate control, since the constitution of the Agency in A. D. 1820, up to Captain Jacob's departure in January 1843, are now sought for through the native agent, without any intimation ever being given me that leave is granted to them, though their duties are still with me, and mine entirely with them; and I beg leave here most respectfully to observe, that unless I can be sure of their regular attendance, and have some control over them as regards their attendance, it is hard that I should be held responsible, as I am, for the correct preparation and regular transmission of the accounts. I had on more than two occasions, and so late as a week back, explained this to Mr. Malet, but no notice was taken. Instructions regarding the sale of unserviceable dead stock, &c., which in the first instance, were hitherto given to the head accountant, as being the officer who conducts, and still conducts the Agency sales, so far as the accounts are concerned, and by him communicated to subordinates, are now in the first place given to the native agent, by him communicated to subordinates, and by them to me. In these and various other respects have the duties of the native agent been increased in importance, though not in labour, since Mr. Malet's appointment to the Agency, at the expense and detriment of mine, without any cause, or any reason whatever that I am aware of.

5. I now come to the more immediate subject of my complaint; but as it is entirely connected with my duties in the Mahsulee, from which I had been lately* removed, to respectfully solicit that I may be permitted to enter into some explanation regarding them. The duty of furnishing mahsuls was formerly entrusted to a jemadar, not on the fixed establishment of the Agency. From some irregularities that were found to exist, the system was remodelled on the 1st May 1840, and the following establishment was formed:—

* 16 Sept. last.

	Rs.
1 English writer - - - - - - - - -	25
1 karkoon - - - - - - - - -	25
2 jemadars, each 10 rupees - - - - - -	20
2 sepahees, each 5 rupees - - - - - -	10
TOTAL - - -	80

Each foot mohsul receives 4 annas daily, or 7½ rupees monthly. Of this amount, 1 rupee is paid monthly by each mohsul, whose chits remain in force for full one month and upwards. From the payments so made, the above establishment is paid. On the 11th June 1841, Captain Jacob, then in charge of the Agency, framed a set of rules for the management of the Mohsulee. In April 1842, Captain Jacob, then Acting Political Agent, finding that no English or any other regular account existed to show the state of the funds, desired me, in conjunction with one of the Gaekwar mujmoodars, "Kuleeanraee Gowreera," since appointed to the situation of treasurer to the Agency, to examine and report upon the funds. With the aid of a set of books which I had opened for check, I was able

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

to report to Captain Jacob in July 1842, that the actual collections from the 1st May 1840 to the 30th April 1842 were - - - *Rs.* 3,647 8 –

Of this amount, on account of pay of establishment, &c., was expended - - - - - - 1,769 13 6

Leaving a balance in favour of the fund of - - *Rs.* 1,877 10 6

Of this balance, *Rs.* 1,174. 2. 6. were in the treasury, and *Rs.* 703. 8. remained to be recovered. I have reasons to know that at this time it was Captain Jacob's full intention, so soon as he was able to form an opinion that the funds could provide for a permanent establishment, to bring the same in the public accounts, and report on the subject to Government. In August 1842, Captain Jacob made a revision of his rules, and the following establishment was formed:—

	Rs.
1 superintendent (additional) - - - - - -	20
2 mymoodars (additional), each 15 rupees - - -	30
2 karkoons, each 20 rupees - - - - - -	40
2 jemedars, each 10 rupees - - - - - -	20
TOTAL - - -	110

These additional salaries were paid half-yearly, dependent on the state of the funds, and after settlement of the half-yearly accounts.

I was at this time appointed to the situation of superintendent of Mohsulee. The balance, *Rs.* 1,877. 10. 6., on the 30th April 1842, met a gradual increase, and on the 30th September 1845, the balance in favour of the fund was Sicca *Rs.* 5,676. 11. 6.

6. Since March 1845, the salaries of the establishments, formerly paid in siccas, were, agreeably to the orders of Government letter in the Finance Department, No. 260, dated 13th March last, paid in Company's rupees. By this my monthly receipt of 230 sicca rupees (200 rupees as head accountant and 30 rupees as superintendent of attachments) was, minus exchange, reduced in amount to Company's rupees 214. 8. The native agent's salary of 300 sicca rupees had, in a like manner, been reduced to Company's rupees 279. 8.; but the loss by exchange of sicca rupees 20. 8. sustained by him, in common with all the other members of the establishment, has been made up to him since the 1st July last by an allowance of 20 rupees from the Mohsulee, and half a rupee as an increase to his salary, recommended by Mr. Malet in his letter to Government, No. 137, dated 21st August last, para. 8, by which his former salary of 300 sicca rupees is now made up to 300 Company's rupees. A vacancy of 20 rupees occurred on the 27th June last by the death of Chemen Rao, one of the karkoons on the Mohsulee establishment. This man, the nephew of the native accountant, was employed in the kutcheree in the department of accounts. He left a brother and other relatives, who, as candidates for employment, assisted and continue to assist in the same department; but, instead of the vacant situation being conferred on one of these parties, it was given to "Bhuwanee Ambashunker," the brother of Goolabraee Ambashunker, the head karkoon of the first assistant. The Mohsulee fund not being brought on the public accounts, the increase of 20 rupees to the native agent, Bhugwan Lal, and the sum of 20 rupees to the brother of Captain Aston's head karkoon, Goolabraee, have been accorded without the Government sanction. The increase was allowed to Bhugwan Lal, from the 1st July, under the denomination of "native superintendent," and my designation of superintendent was, from the same date, altered to that of "English superintendent." As the rules by this change have met with no alteration, and Bhugwan Lal's duties as native superintendent have not as yet been defined, I conceive it is because there are no duties for him to do; else, I strongly believe, that such an appointment would have been made by Captain Jacob in August 1842, at the time he revised the rules; and that, therefore, as a sinecure appointment, I am led to concur in the general impression that the increase was accorded to him merely to make up for loss of exchange.

7. Considering

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

7. Considering that these increases were made just as the inquiry into the accusations against Bhugwan Lal and Goolabrace had terminated, I beg most respectfully to submit to your Honour whether this was a fit time for any mark of favour being shown these parties, in exclusion to all others of the office and kutcheree establishments whose characters were free from blame, and not a shadow of guilt attached to them. I cannot say it, but it is generally believed to be the case, that these concessions were also made to show the country that they still retained the confidence and support of their employers. It, however, soon served to discourage me; for having nothing left for him to do in the Mohsulee, Bhugwan Lal, no sooner he was appointed as the native superintendent of Mohsulee, than he endeavoured to find faults with entries in the English Mohsul register conducted by me. I was put to the task, on three different occasions, to answer his misrepresentations; and having, I believe, satisfied Mr. Malet that the fault, if any, was not with me, but laid entirely with the kutcheree, over whom since Bhugwan Lall's appointment to the Mohsulee I had no control, I respectfully but strongly remonstrated against Bhugwan Lal, either as native agent or as native superintendent of Mohsulee, interfering with sipahees attached to the English office, or with any other part of my duties, as it was contrary to the practice of the agency. Mr. Malet upon this directed that I should be referred to regarding such sipahees as were attached to the English office, and Bhugwan Lal regarding those who were attached to the kutcherees and elsewhere; though I consider it proper I should state, that previous to Bhugwan Lal's nomination to the Mohsulee, I was, as sole superintendent, responsible for the entire supervision of the registry, and in no instance, since my appointment in July 1842, was my conduct questioned, or any fault whatever found with me. Notwithstanding Mr. Malet's instructions, Bhugwan would still interfere with me, and I consider it sufficiently clear from Mr. Malet's note (No. 2), directing me always to enter my names from his kutcheree, and that if they are new to insert opposite them, "By Mr. Malet's order, through the kutcheree," or more plainly speaking, through the native agent; but Bhugwan Lal wished, as the head of the kutcheree, to have, as before,* the Mohsulee entirely in his own hands; and I beg leave very respectfully to refer to Captain Jacob, whether, in conferring on me the appointment of superintendent, it was not his particular object to preclude the native agent from having so much to do on it. As, however, Mr. Malet's orders to me in July 1844 were strict, that no Bramin, Nagur, Banian, Looana, or any other of the unmilitary classes, should be registered for a chit without special orders from him, and aware that a Bramin named Mya Shunker, whose name was given me by the kutcheree for entry, was at the time, and for many years previously, the domestic priest of a karkoon on the establishment, I wished to have reported on the case, but certainly not without first entering his name on the rolster, as directed; but before I could send in the rolster along with the other office daily report books, to show that I had acted up to orders, and had entered the name of Mya Shunker, I received a second note (No. 3). As called for by Mr. Malet, I returned my explanation (No. 4); on the same note Mr. Malet endorsed an order as follows: "Enter his name as I directed, and act up in future as I ordered you in my note of Saturday; there is no cause for your feeling aggrieved." This order was delivered to the native agent, and sent to me the following day along with a Mohsul chit, with a request from him that the name of a Sumnut Runmul which I had already entered should be erased, and that of the Bramin Mya Shunker be inserted instead. From Mr. Malet's notes (Nos. 2 and 3) it will be seen that no mention whatever is made regarding the alteration required by the native agent in the Mohsul chit, but simply that I was to enter (*i. e.*, in the rolster) any new name given me by the kutcheree; but Mya Shunker's was not a new name, only that he formed one of the rejected classes, and I therefore knew this to be a shift of the native agent merely to annoy me to the utmost extent, to tempt me to commit myself in some manner, if possible, because he knows full well that I am pretty well acquainted with his delinquencies, and that, however much he was protected for the present, his enormities would

* Prior to my appointment as superintendent, in July 1842, no roster nor any English account of the funds existed; and the patronage of Mohsulee employment was in the hands of the native agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

would one day, either sooner or later, be brought by me to public notice; and feeling also the degradation I was subjected to at the hands of such a man, a degradation which I believe stands without a precedent in any other public department, of being compelled, as the head or senior of the English office, to receive my orders from the political agent "through the kutcheree," or, as before observed, through the native agent, and conscious also that Mr. Malet's harsh conduct towards me has chiefly emanated from the undue influence possessed with him by the native agent, and Mr. Malet's gross partiality towards him, I in a moment of great excitement and distress of mind penned the accompanying note (No. 5). Mr. Malet gave me half an hour's time to beg permission to withdraw it. I did so, expressing sorrow that my note should displease him, and adding that I had, as I believed, only stated how much my feelings were irritated by his harsh bearing towards me. Mr. Malet upon this returned my note now forwarded, and sent out an order recorded in the office order book, removing me from my appointment in the Mohsulee, and conferring it on my junior, the head clerk, although I have still the keeping of the private deposit book wherein the Mohsulee collections are entered, and by which alone the accounts of the fund can be correctly checked. I beg therefore very respectfully to solicit that your Excellency will, under the above circumstances, take an indulgent view of my case; and, after an impartial inquiry, be kindly pleased to restore me to my office of superintendent in the Mohsulee.

8. Having stated above, that it is chiefly from the undue influence possessed by the native agent, and that gentleman's gross partiality towards him, that I have been for some time past subjected to very unusual treatment at his hands, I consider myself bound to state the circumstances under which I am induced to make these assertions; I beg, therefore, with the utmost deferrence to remind your Excellency of the fact, that the character of Bhugwan Lal, the native agent, prior to being placed on his trial on the 12th April last, was repeatedly impugned with acts of bribery and corruption. After the investigation which had been made regarding these charges, it would, I consider, be improper in me to make any allusion to them; but from what I had personally observed, I beg very respectfully to notice, that had the native agent been actually suspended, *i. e.* if he were relieved from all duties, and restricted from attending the kutcheree, but only at the bungalow, and then only during the course of his trial, instead of being allowed as he was, not only to attend at the kutcheree, and occupy his usual seat on gadee,* but also do business of some kind, and have access to the bungalow, even during holidays, as well in the absence of his accusers, and when no other karkoon attended business, I make no doubt that a number of other accusations, besides those gone into, would, as stated in Mr. Malet's letter No. 56, dated 12th April, para. 13, have been preferred and substantiated on the clearest evidence, before an impartial tribunal. I beg to enclose a statement, No. 6, of some of these charges; and in so doing, I beg that your Excellency will not suppose that I gave the smallest encouragement to complaints; on the contrary, recollecting that I had been previously spoken to by Mr. Malet, I listened with caution, and invariably advised the parties to petition. But I would here beg to notice the fact, that believing as they did that the door of justice was shut against them, they have, I am aware, appealed to several officers in camp, and among them to me, supposing that, from my position in the agency, it was not unlikely that, like my predecessors, I had it in my power to mention their grievances to the Political Agent; but I regret to state that this was not the case.

9. I beg leave further to observe, that by Government circular, dated 9th January 1836, the employment of Christian clerks on the Sabbath is prohibited, except only on emergent occasions. During my employment in the agency, since the last five years nearly, I know of no instance that any of the clerks was required to work on the Sabbath, except on three or more occasions, during the recent trials of Bhugwan Lal and Goolabraee. What public emergency there was for this, your Honour can best decide; and I beg also very respectfully

* The native term, gadee, signifies on throne. The seat of the native agent, like those used by native durbars, is a bed about one foot thick and 3½ feet square, elegantly covered, and with a large and high pillow for the back, which also is handsomely covered; and his seat is commonly called a gadee.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

respectfully to submit to your Excellency, whether by the Government order, No. 2131, dated 29th April last, declaring the acquittal of Bhugwan Lal, and directing if nothing else be proved against him that he be immediately released from suspension, it was at all intended, in case of no fresh accusations coming forward against him, that he should be restored to his duties, even before the trial of Goolabraee commenced. I humbly beg it may be recollected that the charges against Goolabraee were preferred at the same time as were those against Bhugwan Lal; and although Goolabraee arrived from Captain Aston's camp on the 18th April, and accusers with their witnesses were present, and almost in daily attendance at the bungalow, his trial had not been entered into until a week after the receipt on the 6th May of the Government letter No. 2131, dated 29th April above alluded to, on which date the native agent was restored to his duties. From the 13th para. of Mr. Malet's letter No. 56, dated 12th April 1845, I do not believe that Government could have at all supposed, in being apprised of Bhugwan Lal's suspension, that it was only of a nominal nature, and because it was of this kind, it may, I think, be justly assumed, that it prevented parties from coming forward with fresh accusations; and this circumstance, together with Bhugwan Lall's early restoration to his appointment, and consequently to power, has also had the effect of Goolabraee's accusers at once abandoning the prosecution. Goolabraee's trial commenced, and was decided on the 13th May; and, as above observed, a week after Bhugwan Lal's restoration to his appointment, although he arrived at Rajkote for trial on the 18th of the preceding month. Such, your Excellency, were the principles on which the trial of Goolabraee were conducted; and that they should be faithfully and yet unreservedly made known to your Honour is, I believe, all that is required from me, to show reasons for my assertions that the influence possessed by Bhugwan Lal with the Political Agent was undue, and hence also Mr. Malet's gross partiality towards him.

10. I beg further to bring to your Excellency's notice, that Lieutenant Valiant, of the 1st Light Cavalry (Lancers), whose name is mentioned in the 4th para. of Mr. Malet's letter No. 56, dated 12th April, is now at Bombay, and I solicit at this time most respectfully to suggest that that officer be called upon for his opinion regarding the charges preferred by Hubeeb Khan and Nooroodeen, and also to state whether separate charges of a like nature by other parties have not been pressed on his attention. In the same manner I would also beg to refer to Lieutenant Arthur, of the 1st Lancers, now at Bombay; and as Lieutenant Valiant was for two years nearly connected with this agency, as acting superintendent of his Highness the Gaekwar's contingent in Katteewar, and has had opportunities also to judge of Hubeeb Khan and Nooroodeen, I respectfully beg that he be called upon to speak as to their character and respectability. In alluding to these points, enough I think has been placed on record by those able and zealous officers, Mr. Blane and Captain Jacob, to speak in their favour; and yet Mr. Malet, in his letter to his first assistant Captain Aston, No. 223, dated 5th April 1845, after transmitting petitions accusing Goolabraee of receiving bribes, and requesting that he may take copies of them, and that he be sent to Rajkote, remarks, "From the character of the accusers, I have every hope that his (Goolabraee's) absence from his duty will be but temporary." Thus your Excellency will be aware that Mr. Malet entertained a bias against these men, even prior to entering upon an investigation into their accusations. With such a feeling, therefore, what prospect, I beg most submissively to observe, is there to expect justice?

11. Again, Lieutenant Loch, superintendent of the contingent in Kattewar, was deputed by Mr. Malet to Joonaghur, as per his letter No. 232, dated 10th April 1845, to procure copies of accounts of a banker named Luvea Velas. Lieutenant Loch, with his letter dated 12th April, forwarded extracts from the accounts; and Mr. Malet in his reply, No. 247, dated 17th April, acknowledges their receipt, and states that, the information sent by Lieutenant Loch is precisely what he required. The extracts from the banker's accounts, forwarded by Lieutenant Loch, were, I believe, called for by Hubeeb Khan, and are said to possess the clearest evidence to convict either the native agent or Goolabraee, or both, of receiving at one time 1,000 korees, and at another time 3,000 korees, as bribes; and yet no inquiry was made into these accusations, neither has the circumstance of Lieutenant Loch proceeding on this duty to Joonaghur been alluded to in any of Mr. Malet's reports, nor any mention made to Governme-

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

of these extracts from the banker's account. It likewise appears remarkable why Mr. Malet's letter, No. 232, dated 10th April, to Lieutenant Loch, and that officer's reply of the 12th April, have not as yet been placed on office record. A blank space of about a side and a half is, however, left for the entry in the Letter Book of No. 232, dated 12th April 1845; the letters of subsequent dates, up to No. 669 of the 26th September 1845, have all been regularly entered. The extracts from the banker's accounts are authenticated by Lieutenant Loch, and are in the handwriting of his karkoon: these have never been filed in the native duftur, the same being, it is supposed, secured with other papers in a bundle, which the native agent takes great care to take home daily with him. Lieutenant Loch has applied for leave to proceed to Bombay; it is likely he will be there before long, and I beg leave therefore most respectfully to solicit that this just and upright officer may be called upon for his statement regarding these copies of accounts sent by him to Mr. Malet, and also of any complaints preferred to him affecting the character of the native agent and other members of the establishment. I am aware that Lieutenant Loch replied to a petition on this subject forwarded from Joonaghur, while that gentleman was at Rajcote some time last year, and the correspondence is now on his duftur.

12. Aware of all these circumstances, and that Bhugwan Lal, prior to obtaining service in this agency, never served in any other public department, and that he was himself employed as a sipahee in the Mohsulee for some time, I consider it hard, however much Mr. Malet was disposed to favour and protect him, that, as the first uncovenanted servant in Katteewar, I should be compelled to submit to such a man in any way, either directly or indirectly, and more particularly as my duties are so entirely unconnected with his. I feel, at the same time, sensible that, as a subordinate, it is my first duty to yield the most implicit obedience to my superiors; but having, as I had before explained already, acted up to Mr. Malet's orders, I beg with great submission to appeal to your Excellency whether such language as that subsequently employed by him in his reply to my explanation, No. 4, was at all becoming towards me as a subordinate, holding a respectable and responsible situation; and under a sense that it is the wish of Government that their uncovenanted servants should be treated with every mark of consideration and respect, I feel encouraged to hope that such language will not be tolerated; and while I entreat an indulgent consideration to my case, I crave it as an act of favour, and with a desire that your Excellency may be made acquainted with the actual state of affairs in this quarter, that a committee, under such instructions as your Excellency may deem proper to issue, may be ordered to assemble at Rajkote, composed of the following officers, namely:—Lieutenant-colonel Stalker, commanding at Rajcote; Major Daon, commanding First Grenadiers, Rajkote; Lieutenant L. M. Valiant (Lancers) at present on leave to Bombay, for the purpose of inquiring into and reporting upon my statement, as well, also, on the extracts from the banker's accounts alluded to in the preceding para. And further, that they be empowered to have free access to the agency records; and, moreover, that the Political Agent be instructed to place Bhugwan Lal and Goolabraee under strict suspension for at least a month, or pending the result of the Court's proceedings, and until your Excellency's further pleasure be known. I feel, too, sure that, under these circumstances, the people will have confidence and come boldly forward; and as I am aware that I incur a serious responsibility in sueing these measures, I beg, with great deference, to state that I am willing, in default of substantiating my statement to a satisfactory degree, to stand the just penalty of being deprived of my appointment, and the disgrace of my dismissal.

13. Most respectfully, but earnestly entreating that my prayer to the extent above stated will be kindly acceded to, and in the full confidence that I shall be found to have rendered an acceptable service to the Government,

I beg, &c.
(signed) *Henry Foster*,
Rajkote, 1 October 1845. Head Account^{t} Katteewar Pol^{l} Agency.

P. S.—The statement (No. 6) alluded to in the 8th para., is under preparation, and will be submitted to your Excellency two days at furthest, and humbly solicit that your Excellency's decision be deferred till its receipt.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 1.

Mr. Foster,

You will see, by the Civil Auditor's letter, to the neglect which has occurred in your department from the 1st February to the 30th April 1843. You have now had plenty of time to make yourself fully acquainted with the duties of accountant, and I hope that such will not again occur; you will find that all payments on account of chiefs from their deposits must be supported by the original petition requesting them. All payments to Government of this description must be pointed out in the cash account, and those to Mohsul vakeels, &c. Many have their receipts with them.

The irregularity of the payments and drafts without my signature, or that of an assistant in charge, is excessive; if it is ever repeated, it will be a reason for your dismissal. Point out the disbursements in the daily book, which you will send with them when returned for my signature.

(signed) *A. Malet.*

Let there be no delay in replying to this remit; it must leave this by the 16th of February.

(signed) *A. Malet.*

No. 2.

Mr. Foster,

You will always enter any names that you get from my kutcheree, and if they were new, put opposite them "By Mr. Malet's order, through the kutcheree;" if it has not been so ordered, I shall see it in the report and notice it.

(signed) *A. Malet.*

No. 3.

Mr. Foster,

I WROTE an order in the Mohsul Book, that you were to enter the names given you from the kutcheree by my order, noting the same opposite them in the book for my information; and I am now told that Mahsukur's name is refused by you. How is this? Enter it; and give me your reason for your refusal.

(signed) *A. Malet.*

No. 4.

From *A. Foster* to Mr. *Malet*, Esq.

Sir,

THE Mujmadar told me, that it was the native agent's order that the name of the Bramin should be inserted; I therefore declined inserting it, and moreover, as he was one of the rejected class.

I inserted the name before receiving your note, though I beg very respectfully to state that I feel aggrieved having, as the head of the department in the English office, to receive my orders through the native department.

Yours, &c.

15 September 1845. (signed) *H. Foster.*

Mr. Foster,

ENTER this name as I directed, and act in future as I ordered in my note of Saturday. There is no cause for your feeling aggrieved.

(signed) *A. Malet.*

No. 5.

From Mr. *Foster.*

Sir,

I CONSIDER the tone of your reply to my explanation of yesterday quite arbitrary and unauthoritative; and I beg therefore, in sending the accompanying Mohsul chit, most respectfully to state my willingness to stand the consequences, whatever they may be, rather than yield submission to such over-bearing language. I have feelings as well as the best; and I don't suppose that, as a public servant holding a respectable situation, and subject to the most courteous consideration from the Government itself, that I shall be suffered to be treated in this manner. The sneer evinced in your reply regarding my feelings, would I consider be undignified in a Government, towards the most humble of its subjects, much less in any one of its servants towards a respectable subordinate.

Yours, &c.

16 September 1845. (signed) *H. Foster.*

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

To *C. J. Erskine*, Esq.. Private Secretary to the Honourable the Governor, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to my letter of the 1st instant, I beg very respectfully to solicit you will have the goodness to submit the accompanying statement to his Excellency the Honourable the Governor, and to remain, &c.

(signed) *Henry Foster*,
Rajkote, 4 October 1845. Head Account^{t} Katteewar Pol^{l} Agency.

To the Honourable Sir *G. Arthur*, Bart., K. C. H., Governor of Bombay, &c. &c. &c.

Your Excellency,

In enclosing the statement (No. 6) alluded to in para. 8 of my address to your Excellency of the 1st instant, I beg very respectfully to solicit, in case of its being found inconvenient to the public service to nominate military officers, while in regimental employ, to civil duties, that Captain Lang, Political Agent in the Myhee Caunta, who for some years was connected with this agency as first assistant, and subsequently as Acting Political Agent, may, in conjunction with Lieutenant Loch, superintendent of his Highness the Guikwar's contingent in Katteewar, be instructed to form a committee to inquire into my statement, and report thereon.

2. From Captain Lang's experience, and that officer's familiar acquaintance with the affairs of this country, together with his knowledge of the long-established practices of this agency, as well as the character and habits of the people, I have reason to expect every justice at his hands; though I am aware that the native agent, Bhugwan Lal's, approved services under Captain Lang, have, in some measure, been instrumental in obtaining for him his present appointment, as may be seen by Mr. Blane's letter to Government, No. 114, dated 28th March 1840.

3. I beg permission at this time to correct an error which I believe to have made in the 11th para. of my statement. If that I have stated, as I fear I did, that the extracts from the banker's accounts, forwarded by Lieutenant Loch, "are said to possess the clearest evidence to convict either the native agent or Goolabraee, or both, of receiving at one time 1,000 korees, and at another, 3,000 korees, as bribes," I respectfully solicit that the latter sum be corrected to 2,000 korees; the total amount of both sums being 3,000 korees led to the mistake.

4. Soliciting pardon for this intrusion on your Excellency's valuable time,

I beg, &c.
(signed) *Henry Foster*,
Rajkote, 4 October 1845. Head Account^{t} Katteewar Pol^{l} Agency.

No. 6.

Statement of Cases alluded to in Para. 8th of my Address to His Excellency The Honourable the Governor.

Case I.—Choora.

On the death, some time in September or October 1843, of Jhalor Raeesingjee, chief of Choora, the right to the succession and administration of the estate was disputed between his mother, "Bujeeba," and his elder widow, "Jetteeba." Jetteeba has two sons; the name of the elder is "Bechursingjee." With a view to espouse her cause, Jetteeba, the widow, deputed Munorba, one of her bhayad, and her karbarees, Manukchund Paruk and Atmaram Bramin, to Rajkote, with a sum of 14,000 sicca rupees to be given to the native agent, Bhugwan Lal. This amount, it is said, was delivered to him some time at night by the party, Munorba, Manuckchund Paruk, and Atmaram, from Choora. After the receipt of the amount of 14,000 sicca rupees by Bhugwan Lal, a petition was addressed to the Political Agent by Jetteeba, in the name of her son, Bechur Singjee. The order in answer to this petition was to the effect, that Jetteeba was to assume the government of the talooka for her elder son, Bechur Singjee, during his nonage; and that Bajeeba, the chief's mother,

mother, was to receive an annual provision from the estate. Shortly after this decision was passed, a Bramin, named "Khanjee Turwadee," was despatched by the chief's mother to Joonaghur, while Mr. Malet encamped there between December 1843 and January 1844, with golden ornaments and jewellery, together with cash, the whole valued to the extent of 20,000 sicca rupees, to Anutjee Ununchund, a confident of the native agent, for the purpose of being given as a bribe to Bhugwan Lal to favour her cause. This was received, it is said, by Bhugwan Lal, at Joonaghur, and divided between himself, Goolabraee Captain Aston's head karkoon, who was then at Joonaghur, and Anutjee Amerchund. Subsequent to this division of the jewellery, &c., between these parties, a petition from Bajeeba was presented, whereupon the order previously passed on the petition from Jetteeba on behalf of her son was reversed, and the right to the administration of the talooka was declared in favour of Bajeeba during her life-time; a provision for Jetteeba and her two sons having to be made at the same time. Jetteeba, the widow, who at first sent the 14,000 rupees to Bhugwan Lal, upon this added 8,000 rupees, making up the amount to 22,000 rupees; this amount of 8,000 rupees was brought by Munorba to Latee, while Mr. Malet's kutcheree was there between March and April 1844, and was, it is said, given to Bhugwan Lal. Jetteeba then again petitioned; the native agent upon this managed to get an order passed, to the effect that the direction of affairs should be conducted jointly by Bajeeba and Jetteeba. Some differences having shortly after this occurred between the mother and widow of the late chief, the estate was sequestered, and it remains from that time to this under attachment (koornuk)*; *i. e.*, the revenues are to be paid to a sakorkar, and a mehta, paid by the durbar, attached, to assist in preventing disputes between the mother and widow of the chief.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Note.—The several orders above alluded to may be had from the kutcheree dufter, if Bh gwan Lal be suspended in the first instance, and on examination of the Choora chopras the sums stated will be found inserted in them; and facts regarding the money received by Bhugwan Lal, elicited from Munooba Manukchund, Atmaram Bramin, and Nurberam Mehta, vakeel of Choora, should their evidences be strictly taken.

Case II.—Nuwanuggur.

Motee Mehta, for many years minister of Nuwanuggur, received two villages, "Wudala and Doorsheea," in perpetuity for services performed. Since his death about seven years back, they were uninterruptedly enjoyed by his family. In A. D. 1843, his Highness the Jam of Nuwannugur, on learning that these villages were much improved, and that they yielded a profitable revenue, had, at the instigation of his minister, Chutur Bhoj, placed them both under attachment. Upon this, Jareja Gujajee, the Jam's brother, who as a witness to the perpetual grant of these villages to Motee Lal, addressed Mr. Malet, soliciting his interference, so that his Highness may be desired to remove the attachment, and restore them to Motee Mehta's family. This application was, it is said, complied with, and an order sent to the Jam accordingly. With a view to revoke this decision of the Political Agent, a sum of 82,000 korees† was sent from Nuwanuggur, both in cash and hoondees, to Chutur Bhoj, who was at this time at Rajkote, by his nephew Nanadroog, employed in the Nuggur durbar, to be given as a bribe to Bhugwan Lal, for the purpose of effecting the restoration to the Jam of the two villages held by Motee Mehta's family. The 82,000 korees, it is said, were received by Bhugwan Lal, and the amount divided between himself, Goolabraee, and Anutjee Amerchund, the Rajkote Karburee, and now also chief minister of Joonaghur. This circumstance having reached the ears of Lala Mehta, the nephew of Motee Mehta, and ostensible head of the surviving members of Motee Lal's family, he, in the shape of a nuzzerana, presented the Jam with three lakhs of korees; upon this, he was restored to favour, and as no arrangement had up to that time been made regarding the restoration of the villages to the Jam, his Highness, as a further mark of favour, appointed Lala Mehta to the office of minister, in room of Chutur Bhoj, who in the interim having returned from Rajkote was placed under restraint, pending an examination of his accounts with the durbar. The item of 82,000 korees sent to Chutur Bhoj was discovered by Lala Mehta, the new minister, to have been sent to Rajkote for expenses, and this he pressed on the Jam's attention. His Highness called on Chutur Bhoj for particulars regarding this expenditure. Failing to do so, the Jam addressed Mr. Malet, reporting the circumstance of the 82,000 korees having been received by Chutur Bhoj, his late minister at Rajkote, and his having entered the item in his accounts as a disbursement for Rajkote expenses, but that he refused to state how or to whom the disbursements were made; his Highness at the same time soliciting, as the Morvee and Dhurol chiefs were his securities, that Mr. Malet call upon them to compel Chutur Bhoj to render his account. This letter from the Jam was received by Mr. Malet at Palitana, some time in April 1844. Mr. Malet upon this passed an order, directing Chutur Bhoj to accede to the Jam's wishes, and render his account. The native agent, Bhugwan Lal, upon this sent secret messengers to the Jam, to apprise his Highness that if he would but restore Chutur Bhoj to his office of minister, and eject Lala Mehta from the durbar, not only would the villages "Wudala" and "Dowsheen" be made over to him, but also that all his other business would be effected agreeably to his wishes. Be this as it may, Chutur Bhoj was soon restored to his office of minister. Mr. Malet's order that he should render his

† Three korees are equivalent to something less than a sicca rupee.

* These koornuk attachments are never reported to Government in the annual return.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

his account to the Jam of the 82,000 korees was hushed up, Lala Mehta dismissed, and placed under restraint. Mr. Malet shortly after, some time in October 1844, proceeded to cherry, adjacent to Nuwanuggur. During his stay there, Mr. Malet, it is stated, decided that the villages Wudala and Dowsheen, which were made, as above observed, as a perpetual grant to Motee Mehta, should be enjoyed by his widow and daughter during their lifetime only; and that after their death they should revert to the Jam.

Note.—The Jam's letter to Mr. Malet regarding the 82,000 korees having been sent to Chutur Bhoj at Rajkote, should be on the kutcheree dufter, and may be found, should Bhugwan Lal and Goolabraee be suspended* before other measures be taken in this case. Chutur Bhoj should subsequently to this be compelled to render his account, as he had been previously required by the Jam, and directed to do by the Political Agent, when the participation of this amount by Bhugwan Lal, Goolabraee, and Anutjee Amerchund can be traced; and as several other items paid to one or other of these parties in like manner are said to be recorded in the Nuggur chopras, and which can be shown by Lala Mehta, all that seems necessary for the detection of these is, that the Jam be applied to for his consent to allow an examination by Lala Mehta of the accounts wherein such items are inserted: and, during this examination by the committee, that Chutur Bhoj be relieved from his duties.

Case III.—Joonaghur.

On the accession to the gadee, in A.D. 1840, of the present Nuwab of Joonaghur, a gold vessel containing gold mohurs, estimated at 40,000 sicca rupees, was, it is said, given to the native agent, Bhugwan Lal; this sum was divided between himself, Goolabraee, and Anutjee Amerchund, now minister of Joonagur, and karbaree of Rajkote. During Mr. Malet's stay at Gondul in November 1843, his Highness paid him a visit, and accompanied by Mr. Malet returned to Joonaghur. A few days after Mr. Malet went to Joonahur, a yad was presented to him by the Nawab, stating that Jubber Shet "one of his ministers in charge of the treasury, and his mother Dada Boo," had made away with large portions of his treasure, and requesting that an examination be made of his treasury accounts. An order was then passed, directing Jubber Shet and Dada Boo to render their accounts; upon this, Jubber Shet gave an account, detailing particulars; but as regards the gold vessel in which the gold mohurs were deposited, Jubber Shet stated that the same was given to Dada Boo, but to whom she gave it he did not know. Had an examination been pressed, Jubber Shet would himself have stated, as he now may, to whom the gold mohurs were given; but no further inquiry was pressed. A short time after Mr. Malet's departure from Joonaghur, Bulwunt Raee, a moonshee, for some time employed in the Joonaghur durbar, through Shunker Pursad, who at this time stood high in favour with the Nuwab, communicated to his Highness that he was able to show to whom the gold mohurs were given. This circumstance coming to the knowledge of the karkoon, Goolabraee, who was at this time with Captain Aston's kutcheree at Joonaghur, communicated the same to Bhugwan Lal. Ten horse Mohsuls, at 50 rupees a day, were shortly after this imposed on the Nuwab; this had the compulsory effect of Shunker Pursad's ejection from the durbar, a measure which was soon followed by the Moonshee Bulwantraee's imprisonment in irons. While in imprisonment, Bhulwant Raee petitioned Lieutenant Loch, during that gentleman's stay at Rajkote with Mr. Malet, in the agency bungalow, offering to afford every information and proof connected with the gold mohurs, and other particulars, if he were sent for to Rajkote, and examined. Lieutenant Loch, it is believed, referred to Mr. Malet, and agreeably to instructions, requested that Bhulwant Raee should make his representations to the Nuwab. Bhulwant Raee's urzee is now on Lieutenant Loch's records; and that officer, if called upon, can state particulars regarding it.

Note.—If an examination be made, the Moonshee Bhulwuntraee, in imprisonment at Joonaghur, can adduce proofs before a court of inquiry, that the gold vessel alluded to, containing the gold mohurs, was given to Bhugwan Lal and Goolabraee, and shared by them with Anutjee Amerchund, now principal minister at Joonaghur, who, in 1836 or 1837, was prohibited by proclamation under the Government sanction from being employed by any durbar in Katteewar. A copy of Bhugwantraee's petition might also be laid before the committee.

Case IV.—Wudwan.

Government, some time in A.D. 1842 or 1843, directed the Political Agent to make an examination of the Wudwan accounts, consequent on, it is believed, the large outlay of two laks of rupees having been disbursed by the Regent Baee, by which this already impoverished talooka had become much embarrassed. Mr. Malet proceeded thence in March or April 1843, and had the accounts examined by his native establishment; Bhugwan Lal assisted chiefly in this examination. The names of parties (some of whom were deceased, or dismissed

* Bhugwan Lal, Goolab Rao, and Anutjee Amerchund are Nagurs, and now considered the most influential men in the country; and, as Captain Jacob, in para. 23 of his report to Government, dated 4 October 1842 (now in print), very justly observes, "That the Nagur community is very powerful in this peninsula," I humbly but most respectfully solicit that I may not be considered obtrusive for importuning the suspension of Bhugwan Lal and Goolabraee during the period of the Court's proceedings.

missed servants of the agency) were submitted to Government, but not that of Bhugwan Lal or Goalabraee. Should an examination be conducted by the committee, it will be found that the sums paid to "morkee" (manager), means the native agent, Bhugwan Lal, and that other items are written off distinctly in his own name, and in that of Goolabraee.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Note.—To establish this case, the Wudwan chopras should be examined by the committee, with the assistance of the Karbaree Dya, and the karkoon attached to the superintendent of his Highness the Gaekwar's contingent, he being unconnected with the agency kutcheree establishment.

Case V.—Gondul.

On the occasion, in February 1842, of Jareja Barnabhaee being declared Regent of Gundul, a bribe for favour, in the shape of an usual present on such occasions, was made to Bhugwan Lal, amount not correctly known, but said to be 6,000 korees. At this time Goolabraee was at Rajkote; he shortly afterwards obtained leave, and on his way to Joonaghur passed a night at Gondul. At this time a bribe, for a similar reason, was received by him; this amount not correctly known; both items are, however, inserted as disbursements in the chopras of the former Nuthoo Bhoj, under the head of "On account of durbar for Bhugwan Lal and Goolabraee;" and in the durbar chopras, a credit is given to Nuthoo Bhooj, "for payments on the durbar account to Bhugwan Lal and Goolabraee." Doolubjee Mehta, late vakeel of Nuwanuggur, on or about November 1843, was nominated, with the Political Agent's consent, as private karbaree to the Gondul durbar. An extract from the Durbar chopras, of the payments written off to Bhugwan Lal and Goolabraee, was taken by him. On this circumstance becoming known to the native agent, he contrived, like other matters, to effect his dismissal from the Gondul durbar, through the Regent Barnabaee. Doolubjee upon this returned to Rajkote. On Mr. Malet's proclamation, issued in March or April 1845, inviting complaints, Doolubjee went forward and communicated the circumstance to Mr. Malet; but how and why the matter was not investigated, will be elicited on inquiry into the assertion contained in para. 8 of my statement, that Bhugwan Lal had access to the bungalow to Mr. Malet, even during holidays, as well in the absence of his accusers, and when no other karkoon attended business.

Note.—Proofs in this case can be procured by an examination of accounts both of the durbar, and farmer who holds his lease under British guarantee; also by a strict examination of the Mehta Doolubjee Bhoj, who so late as the 15th ultimo has been permitted the concession a farm, on a Phoola chot tenure for 10 years, of 33 villages of the Wankaneer talooka, in anticipation of the Government sanction.

Observations.

Captain Aston, first assistant, in his letter, dated 12th April 1845, and which I believe was forwarded to Government with Mr. Malet's letter No. 81, dated 15th May 1845, after commenting on the characters of one and all of the evidences named in the trial of Bhugwan Lal and Goolabraee, states, in para. 2, on the hearsay of Goolabraee, his karkoon, with reference to the character of Doolubjee Mehta, that Doolubjee Mehta was a chief leader and director in the business, and that he "was last year suspected of being concerned in the conspiracy of Bhutwunt Raee and others, at Joonaghur, to accuse Bhugwan Lal and Goolabraee, through Jubber Leeladhur, at Joonaghur." And again, in para. 4, Captain Aston states that Doolabjee Bhoj, who was lately dismissed from his situation from Gondul, was a candidate for the situation of native agent, when Bhugwan Lal was preferred; whereas Captain Jacob, in para. 6, No. 85, of his letter to Government, dated 22d February 1842, in speaking of this very individual, records as follows: "The Jam, I am sorry to say, is indifferent about all public affairs; his karbarees think only of making hay while the sun shines; and his able and, I believe I may add, faithful Vakeel Doolubjee will, I fear, not longer continue to give his master the benefit of valuable but unappreciated services." If Doolubjee Mehta is now of the character described by Captain Aston, how comes it then, I beg leave most respectfully to submit, that the farm of 33 villages of that extensive talooka of Wankaneer has been conceded to him, from the 15th September last, for a term of 10 years. It is generally believed that this affair was brought about by the native agent to quiet him in the Gondul bribery affair (Case V.), and to feel satisfied. In this manner is the character of respectable servants, to serve the views of the native agent and the first assistant karkoon, liable to be vilified or misrepresented.

It may be asked why these people endeavour to compass their ends by bribes? The reason assigned is, that without doing so now, their business, whether right or wrong, will not be taken up by the native agent or the first assistant head karkoon, who have now all the power; and further that, as a reason why they complain after giving bribes is, that the receivers make no hesitation in receiving from both sides: hence, therefore, the disappointed party being aggrieved, and feeling as it were quite helpless, resorts to complaints.

I had taken notes of the above cases as they were brought to my knowledge from time to time, with a view that I should use my influence, and bring the same to the notice of the Political Agent. I have, I humbly hope, assigned sufficient reasons in my statement to show why I did not do so; but it was, nevertheless, always my intention to wait a fit time, when I could hope to be fairly heard.

Rajcote,
4 October 1845.

(signed) *Henry Foster*,
Head Accountant, Kattewar Political Agency.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 4832 of 1845.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you, for any explanation you may have to offer, two original petitions, with enclosures, dated the 1st and 4th instant, from Mr. Henry Foster, head accountant in the Katteewar Political Agency, complaining against your conduct in the several instances therein detailed, and preferring various charges of bribery and corruption against persons on your establishment. You will also be pleased to return these documents, with your reply.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle,
23 October 1845.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 507.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 21 January 1846.

Government, No. 179 of 1845.—General, No. 724.—Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 4832, October 23, transmitting, for my explanation, two original petitions, with enclosures, dated the 1st and 4th instant, from Mr. Henry Foster, head accountant in the Katteewar Political Agency, complaining against my conduct in the several instances therein detailed, and preferring various charges of bribery and corruption against persons on my establishment.

2. These complaints resolve themselves into three heads, the one personal to Mr. Foster, as connected with my treatment of him, and his dismissal from the office of English superintendent of Mohsullee; the second public, as containing his comments on my official conduct, and that of my first assistant; and the third also public, containing charges against persons on my native establishment. The second of these heads I shall not touch on, except incidentally, when included in one of the others, for I do not suppose that Government consider Mr. Henry Foster a competent person to make such comments, or that they can be worthy of refutation.

3. The other two points I have thought it more clear to divide into two reports. I proceed now to his personal complaint.

4. Mr. Foster's diligence in the comparatively subordinate appointment of head clerk, and exertions in bringing up arrears of accounts consequent on the late head accountant's illness and death, induced me, notwithstanding that I was obliged to attribute the correctness of the accounts chiefly to a person named Girdhur Lal, whom I had nominated to aid him, to recommend him to Government for the appointment which he obtained, an appointment which has often since been a subject of regret to me, for his ungovernable temper and overweening vanity, coupled with such an exacting spirit as is most intolerable to all his subordinates, have given rise to such frequent quarrels, often to the detriment of public business, and so many mutual complaints, that I have had the greatest difficulty in composing them. These faults, sufficient altogether to disqualify a man for the situation he holds, either from his subordinate appointment, or through great carefulness on his part, were, until his new appointment, so much smaller in degree as not to lead me to apprehend any great difficulty in dealing with him; but since that time, I could not have conscientiously recommended Mr. Foster to any other office, and therefore had no alternative but, by impartial investigation of his quarrels in the office, to endea vour to allay the irritation which I could not eradicate. If any bias on my part existed, it was towards him as the senior clerk, and I have several times privately

privately reprehended him for his conduct, while officially deciding in his favour.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

5. With this preliminary notice, I shall take in order his complaints.

6. A rebuke written in February 1844. I was under the impression that money had been paid from the treasury on documents unsigned either by me or an assistant, which, as contrary to positive orders, would have been a reason for dismissal even without warning; as it was not so, I presume that on Mr. Foster's explanation I was satisfied, and considered that the fault not having been committed, the censure was harmless; at any rate, I expressed myself pleased with his exertions on my return to Rajkote, which should have been sufficient for any reasonable person. The observation of the note sent open through a junior clerk applies, I fancy, to its being unsealed, and so put up in the packet made up daily for Rajkote by the head clerk, who was in the districts with me. As to Mr. Foster's self-praise, I repeat that it is to Girdhur Lal's great application and knowledge of accounts that he is indebted for the punctual performance of his duties. I do not deny to Mr. Foster the merit of keeping his subordinates well to their work, with a knowledge of English superior to that of many persons in his line of life, and a great anxiety to have his accounts always ready in time, and this is considerable praise; but without some good qualities to counterbalance his faults, he would not have got the appointment, or never could have retained it.

7. References concerning accounts, I conclude I make to where I expect the quickest information. I do not recollect any particular instances, but I have found that Mr. Foster had to get information which I required from the native department, and that it was sometimes altered (not intentionally), in its passage through him; whether I have expressed this to him or not I cannot say, but he from his want of patience, or of properly understanding the natives of the account department, has obliged me several times to go through intricate inquiries to the delay of other business, in matters which a head accountant ought to have been able to arrange.

8. As to the leave, I cannot recollect any instance to which he may allude, but it is not unlikely, if he had left the office before application for leave was made to me, that it has been granted on application by the native agent. As to the sales, I do not know what he can mean, except that as the requisite documents from chiefs, attachment mehtas, &c., come to hand, the order is given on them, and it may have been communicated first to Mr. Foster from that order, instead of direct, but he well knows that no sale ever takes place until he has received orders on the subject; and so tenacious is he (it involves a per centage), on this subject, that he once made a formal complaint to me, that a Guzarattee sale list had been submitted to me for sanction before he had sent in his English one; it was not the case, the prices of the articles had been noted down and shown to me, but the English sale list is the only one I sign.

9. Mr. Foster now comes to the Mohsullee department, assuming to himself all the credit of the reforms introduced by Captain Jacob (it will not be forgotten that he has never mentioned the able assistance he has in his account department). I do not dispute the accuracy of his assertion concerning the gradual changes, but I know him to be so far wrong as to Captain Jacob's intention, that that officer told me that I should find it impracticable, from their nature, to bring the Mohsullee collections on the public accounts.

10. Mr. Foster, while head clerk, and not holding the book for entry of private accounts (there was not a separate daily book at that time, and every entry was made in one daily book), was appointed superintendent, an appointment very properly bestowed on him as head clerk, so much so, that although I did not deprive him of it when he was promoted, in consequence of his successor as head clerk being a new man, unaccustomed to such work, I found it necessary to make Mr. Wilkinson superintendent while in the districts with me, so that he soon learnt the duties, and but for my dislike to deprive Mr. Foster of it altogether, should then have permanently received the appointment, which while he is with the Political Agent in the districts, he alone in the English department can perform.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

11. It was partly now the inconvenience to be suffered by the change of superintendents, and partly the fact that all irregularities of the Mohsuls while on duty, can be detected in the native department alone, and that in that constant vigilance and superintendence is necessary, that I long since determined to make Bhugwan Lal superintendent of Mohsulee in the native department; but I was deterred from giving it him, in consequence of the accusations, which, as Government is aware, were long pending over him. On their termination, there was nothing to prevent his receiving the appointment, and I gave it him, to commence from the next half year, thereby completing the establishment in both its branches, native and English.

12. On the death of Chimun Rao, his brother, but for his extreme youth, only 12 years old, would have been made Mohsullee karkoon; as it was, Bhugwan Lal begged it for a friend (I do not think he was a relation), and I refused, giving it to Bhuwanee Ambashunker, Goolabraee's mother's sister's son, thus putting a relation of the first assistant's ill-paid karkoon into an appointment with which his own duties were unconnected.

13. The irregularities noticed by Mr. Foster as made matter of accusation against him by Bhugwan Lal, did exist, and had never been refuted by Mr. Foster, but as they were trifling, consisting chiefly of persons who in strict right should not have been on the roll, I thought it better, to prevent discord (a fruitless attempt), to pass them over; but to prevent in future any improper persons being brought on the roll, I directed that all new names which Mr. Foster might receive from the kutcheree, should be noticed as brought on by my order, for I had strictly forbidden any new names being put on the roll without my permission, and it was necessary that this note should be affixed to bring each to my notice. Mr. Foster knew he could at any time, when persons might be wanting, recommend any person for entry on the roll, sure that if good reasons against him did not exist I should permit it.

14. As to Mahshunker, Mr. Foster demurred to entering his name in a Mohsulee chit, which was issued for the express purpose of obtaining payment of some balance of Mohsulee due to him from Bhudwana, where he had been on duty since 1841, and Mr. Foster in refusing to enter his name, would have broken through an invariable rule, which is always, in default of payment, to send a man to collect the balance of his own dues.

15. On receiving Mr. Foster's most disrespectful note, I dismissed him from the Mohsulee department, and gave him half an hour to withdraw it; he did so immediately; had he not, I should have suspended him from his appointment as head accountant, and reported the case to Government; he has now cancelled the withdrawal, and must take the consequences.

16. The withdrawal of his note could not cause me to reinstate him in the Mohsulee department. I therefore entered in the book the order for Mr. Wilkinson as English superintendent, who holds now precisely the appointment, that of head clerk, which Mr. Foster enjoyed when he was made superintendent, the accounts being entered precisely as before, except that since my arrival I have had two daily books kept, one public, in which every item is placed on the public account; the other, termed private deposit, in which are placed sums concerning which inquiry has to be made concerning the head under which they are to be entered, or pay of persons at a distance, sums paid in on account of Wultur, from which the person, though at Rajkote, is not ready at the moment to receive it, such temporary payments and disbursements being made from it, as well as those of the Mohsulee department (previous to the late Government orders, portions of officers' salaries left in the Treasury were entered) it, as will be perceived, though it is called private, is a public record book, and merely denominated private, from the sums entered in it not being brought on the public accounts.

17. Mr. Foster's remarks on my note in reply to his, No. 4, appear to me quite uncalled for, more especially as he must have underscored the word "feeling" himself, for I certainly did not, and it could never call for such a reply as that which he has had the effrontery, after withdrawing, to submit to Government. I beg, therefore, that as he has cancelled by such conduct my kind intentions, the consequences may ensue, as the whole of his production, the

the greatest portion of which I notice in this and my following letter, is not only so extremely improper, but shows his own impropriety of conduct so glaringly, that after its perusal I can no longer have the slightest trust in him, nor submit to official intercourse with him; I most respectfully request his removal.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

Kattewar Political Agency, Nowanuggur,
3 November 1845.

P. S.—The documents are returned as directed. I have kept no copy.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

Government, No. 180 of 1845.—General, No. 725.—Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to the public portion of Mr. Foster's complaint against me, transmitted with your letter, No. 4832, October 23. I have the honour to submit for the consideration of the Honourable the Governor in Counil, the following remarks:

2. It was reported to me, that during the time Man Kan's accusation against my establishment, my head accountant had been seen speaking to him; I warned him against mixing with such characters, and told him, I think at the same time, that any complaint he might make of his own knowledge, would be listened to with attention.

3. Man Khan, on a reclamation made for him as a convicted thief by the Nuwab of Joonaghur, was confined in default of obtaining security, and released on the day after I received a reply from Joonaghur to my requisition, grounded on the 3d para. of your letter, No. 3115, October 11th. There was no doubt of his guilt; but as he had been at Joonaghur since the crime, and was not seized (his former employers were then in power) I refused to give him up.

4. As to the Kosides, the only thing concerning them which I am aware of, is that two who had brought letters from Bugwan Lal's family were detained by him at Rajkote, until the return of my suwar from Joonaghur.

5. My proceedings in the case of Bhugwan Lal's suspension were reported to Government; the only new thing I perceive in it is the assertion that he was in the habit of visiting me during native holidays; I remember but one occasion, on which he came to complain that a retainer of Nooroodeen's had been heard to utter threats from which he considered that his life would be attempted, in case of acquittal.

6. I am aware that gentlemen in camp were applied to for their interest with me, and I am also aware that in a late instance money was offered to one young officer should he obtain a favourable consideration of his suit; whether such a stimulus, beyond his own revengeful and ungovernable feelings, has prompted Mr. Foster to his defence of Nooroodeen, and Hubeeb Khan and his accusations, I cannot say; but it appears to me probable, more especially as Lieutenant-colonel Cunninghame, who on one occasion turned out of his house a man who wished him to use his influence with me, is not included in Mr. Foster's committee, from which I infer a knowledge of that fact by Mr. Foster.

7. Captain Loch sent to me from Joonaghur extracts from a banker's books and a deposition. The papers were exactly those which I had required; but, so far from their containing any evidence against Bhugwan Lal and Goolabraee, they contained merely some accounts between a mehta named Anudjee Doolubjee, Habeet Khan, and Mahdooraee, Goolabraee's brother, but not in the Government service. They were so useless that they remained with me un-

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

thought of, until now when I placed them on record. The draft of my letter to that officer has been mislaid; but there can be no reason against its entry, and I can get it from him for that purpose when he returns from his leave.

8. These, I believe, are all that can probably be called public matters in Mr. Foster's first letter. I now proceed to his second letter containing his statement of cases.

9. The accusation concerning bribes from Choora is one of those which was mentioned to me, and which the party mentioning it at last acknowledged that he could not prove. My orders for the management of that petty state were based on a report from a Zubtee karkoon, enclosing a paper drawn up by the principal inhabitants of that place, stating that the wife, and not the mother, had been accustomed to manage it during the late thakoor's life. There is now a mehta there to see that quarrels between the two parties do not arise, and to prevent any unnecessary expenditure, as the chief is a minor; but I have not yet had any opportunity of going there myself to endeavour to reconcile the two ladies, who, of course, are on bad terms with each other.

10. The second case, concerning Nuwanuggur, is one of those so frequent among native princes. Chutur Bhooj was dismissed and imprisoned by the Jam, and his security appealed to me. After a long time, they gave security that he should pay whatever he had misappropriated, and I directed that he should be released, and the charges proved. In the meantime he, through a large nuzzerana, was again brought into favour, and Lala Mehta was confined, and the jemadars, his securities, appealed to me. Last year, on their becoming nazir zamin, the Jam, at my request, released him and his party, and the accounts have been investigated; and the affair will, I hope, shortly be brought to a conclusion, unless the hopes which Mr. Foster's interference may give them should cause additional delay.

11. The third case is one which, if Bulwunt Raee could, he would have proved to retain his power; being unable to do so, he, without success, tortured Jubbur Shet to make him criminate my native establishment.

12. Shunkur Pursad was pursuing the usual plan, offering, not an advance of revenue, but a different mode of payment in case the whole of the Joonaghur districts were farmed to him, and if the ministry which, at the Nuwab's urgent solicitation, I had allowed him to form, were dismissed. This, as the Nawub had but just agreed to abide by the Political Agent's advice, I prevented.

13. In the Wudwan case, against Mr. Foster's assertion I have a letter from the Regent, stating that Mookhee was her own head man, who was at Rajkote. The Kharbaree Dya was one of those concerned in the former examination of the accounts, when neither Bhugwan Lal's nor Goolabraee's names were found.

14. Gondul. I have never heard of these accusations before, though Doolubjee, late in the employ of Gondul, has perhaps had more private interviews with me than any other person at Rajkote. He has no reason to like Nuthoo Bhooj, who caused his dismissal, and is, I believe, no friend of Bhugwan Lal's; he has, however, spoken of Nuthoo Bhooj in such a way as to lead me not to pass the last year's accounts until I get sufficient leisure to examine them very thoroughly; for which, therefore, I have some time since applied to Bhunabhye for a confidential agent on his part, who it is not unlikely will be Doolubjee himself. Doolubjee is a man of some wealth; his farm of Wankaneer expired last year, and the thakoor has requested for him a guarantee for a ten years' poola choot lease. I have permitted him to manage this year alone in anticipation of the Government sanction, which I presume will, as usual, be given as soon as I have leisure to report the case. It would require a positively bad character or some other equally decided reason to refuse to comply with a request of this description from a native chief.

15. I have thus replied seriatim to Mr. Foster's charges; they show how far he has acted up to his assertion, made in the 9th paragraph of his first letter, of not giving encouragement to complaints, an assertion in itself totally irreconcilable with the last paragraph of his statement of the 4th October. Mr. Foster, in common with all the Government servants in the English office and Kutcheree, had unquestioned right of access to me at all times, but until his temper

temper became perfectly ungovernable in consequence of his removal from the Mohsulee department, and has made him reckless of consequences, he appears to have thought it best not to bring to my notice charges which it did not depend on himself to prove, and therefore for meddling in which I should certainly have reprehended him.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

16. His Honour in Council will perceive that it is impossible that this self-constituted spy and commentator on my official duties can any longer remain in my office; I therefore respectfully beg the favour of instructions concerning him.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency,
Nowanoggur, 3 November 1845.

Government, No. 182 of 1845.—General, No 727 of 1845.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to my two letters, Nos. 179 and 180, of yesterday's date, I have the honour to transmit a copy of an order I have this day addressed to Mr. Foster, requiring him to confine himself to his own duties till the orders of Government on his two letters are made known to him.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency,
Nowannuggur, 4 November 1845.

Enclosure to Government Letter, No. 182, of the 4th November 1845.

No. 728 of 1845.

Mr. Foster,

I have received from Government, for my report, your letters of the 1st and 4th October, from which I find that you are in the habit of listening to complaints against my native establishment; I therefore send you this peremptory order, that you will confine yourself to your particular duties as head accountant, and on no account visit or receive any visits from natives, nor listen to any complaints whatever, until the orders of Government on the subject of your two letters above alluded to may be made known to you.

Nowanuggur, 4 November 1845. (signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

(True copy.)
(signed) A. Malet, Political Agent.

Mr. Foster,

With reference to Mr. Malet's order sent to you yesterday, some respectable natives were observed at your house this morning; please to let me know who they were, and the object of their visit.

7 November 1845. (signed) *Henry Aston.*

Reply to Captain *Aston*, First Assistant Political Agent, Rajkote.

Sir,

Except my servants and workmen and a shroff, who called to see me on my private business, I know of no native who came to my house this morning.

Lots of natives pass through my compound merely to see my house, as it is a new bungalow still unoccupied, and I have no wish to keep them out, though it is seldom I ever find it necessary to talk to them.

Yours, &c.
7 November 1845. (signed) *Henry Foster.*

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

To His Excellency the Honourable Sir *George Arthur*, Bart., K. C. H.,
Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

Honourable Sir,

In annexing copy of a letter which I had yesterday received from Mr. Malet, the Political Agent in Katteewar, I beg leave to bring to your Excellency's notice that inquiries are now being instituted by Captain Aston as to whether I had at any time seen Shek Nooroodeen at his house, and whether he had at any time visited me. While I conscientiously disclaim ever having visited him or any other complainant, and that I am ignorant even now of the place of residence of these parties, I beg with much deference to assure your Excellency that I had at no time any cause to suppose that it was contrary to rule to listen to any party whom I knew to be respectable, though at no time can it be safely asserted that I encouraged or invited visits to me, and it is a well-known fact also, that no individual on the Agency establishment is less visited than me by any class of the native community, either respectable or otherwise; I earnestly solicit, therefore, the favour that these points be fairly inquired into.

2. When, however, I found myself subject to very unusual treatment and harshness by Mr. Malet, and convinced that it was on no public grounds, but only on account of the causes already urged in my statement to your Excellency's address of the 1st October last, I considered it my duty, in seeking redress at your Excellency's hands, to submit a correct and respectful statement of my grievances, and to set forth therein in as clear a manner as possible every circumstance connected with them.

3. With the humble impression that your Excellency will not be of opinion I had acted wrong in pursuing these measures, and that if I did it was but an error in judgment, I beg again at this time very respectfully to state that should your Excellency deem fit to comply with my prayer of appointing a committee to inquire into my statement, and of directing the suspension of the native agent, Bhugwan Lal, and the head karkoon, Goolabrae, during the course of the inquiry, I feel confident that this procedure will enable me not only satisfactorily to substantiate my statement, but that it is likely also to elicit other particulars of a still more serious nature, while at the same time it would give me the opportunity of meeting anything that may be urged against my conduct.

4. Most earnestly entreating that your Excellency will be graciously pleased to afford my case a just hearing, and relying on your Excellency's disposition to dispense justice with an equal hand to all classes,

I beg, &c.
(signed) *Henry Foster*,
Rajkote, 7 November 1845. Katteewar Political Agency.

P. S.—I beg to submit a note which I received from Captain Aston this day. I am, your Honour, ready to account to my superiors for my public conduct, but I consider it a case of extreme hardship that my private affairs should be interfered with. I humbly crave, therefore, your Excellency's consideration on this matter.

No. 728 of 1845.

Mr. Foster,

I have received from Government, for my report, your letters of the 1st and 4th October, from which I find that you are in the habit of listening to complaints against my native establishment; I therefore send you this peremptory order, that you will confine yourself to your particular duties as head accountant, and on no acoount visit, or receive any visits, from natives, nor listen to any complaint whatever, until the orders of Government on the subject of your two letters above alluded to may be made known to you.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.
Nuwanuggur, 4 November 1845.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

To His Excellency the Honourable Sir *George Arthur*, Bart., K.C.H., Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

Honourable Sir,

1. Observing that every attempt is now being made to bring up some accusation or other against me, and in the hope that should any have been preferred I may notwithstanding have the benefit of being fairly heard, and apprehensive also that further reserve on my part would be unjust to myself and injurious to my cause, I am induced under these considerations at this time most respectfully to bring to your Excellency's notice, that the allusion made in para. 4 of my letter of the 7th instant to your Excellency's address, to the effect that should my prayer for a committee to inquire into my statements be complied with, and that "should the native agent and the head karkoon be suspended during the course of the inquiry, such a procedure is likely to elicit other particulars of a still more serious nature," was intended by me to imply as follows:—

1st. That I would quote a few instances, such as the following, to show the difficulty that at present exists of obtaining access to the Political Agent to obtain a hearing, occasioned probably by parties holding employment in that agency, to serve some selfish or other end. A man in January last, despairing of obtaining access to the Political Agent and a hearing of his grievances, had, with a view to effect this, resorted to the desperate expedient of oiling himself and his clothes, and of setting himself on fire in the agency garden, within about 20 yards from the agency bungalow. When the fire sufficiently lighted, he loudly roared out; his cries were heard, and three men who came to his rescue were rewarded with a sum of 25 rupees from the fire fund; the sufferer was sent to the civil hospital, where he was treated and retained for three months.

2dly. To show that if there be public, there are also private causes why Bhugwan Lal and Goolabraee are so much supported and protected against complaints affecting their public conduct and character.

3dly. That in addition to the cases of bribery and corruption already adduced by me against Bhugwan Lal and Goolabraee, I would also endeavour to show several others of a similar nature, leaving the committee to elicit, in course of the inquiry, whether any bribe or bribes had not been given by Bugwan Lal and Goolabraee to invalidate the charges preferred against them by Nooroodeen and others; and if so, whether it is not also probable that, by similar means, and backed by the influence they possess and the favour of their situations, they can bring up groundless accusations against me.

2. I most respectfully solicit, under these circumstances, that your Excellency will see fit to comply with my prayer to the extent solicited by me. Every attempt to thwart the assembly of a committee may, I fear, be had recourse to either by insinuations thrown out, or by instances adduced to affect my conduct and character. These at this time may be naturally expected, and I therefore most humbly trust and very respectfully entreat, that the previous considerations of increase and promotion I had met with during my employment in this agency, which I conclude were for good conduct and character, and a correct and diligent discharge of my duties, will not be lost sight of, but be also duly weighed and considered. In the meanwhile I beg your Excellency will be indulgently pleased to observe, that if any allegations have now been urged against me, they have only been got up in recrimination of my statements of complaint; and I further beg that your Excellency will kindly bear in mind, that since my statements were sent here for report, I have been subject to the anomalous restrictions of receiving no visits from any native, which, though I heed not, I respectfully submit is tantamount to an arrest, because when the native agent, Bhugwan Lal, was under suspension in April, he was allowed not only to attend the kutcheree and perform duties of the same kind, but was also not prohibited from visiting or from being visited; whereas, if he then had, by visits, the means to disprove charges against him, similar means are withheld from me, when not suspended, to help, if necessary, in proving my complaints. Were it possible to establish his or the head karkoon's innocence before an impartial tribunal of the complaints made by me, I venture very humbly to express an opinion, that the measures thus pursued with me seem in no manner

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

requisite; and as regards my listening to complaints against the native establishment, I beg respectfully to state, that I know not how it can be perceived from my letters to your Excellency's address of the 1st and 4th October, that I had been in the habit of doing so, as assumed by Mr. Malet in his letter to me dated 4th November, a copy of which I had forwarded to your Excellency on the 7th instant; although I can quote a few instances which occurred in this agency, of complaints made by members of the English office against the native establishment, and *vice versâ*, having been heard and inquired into. But it would appear that, because I preferred my complaint direct to your Excellency instead of to the Political Agent, I am found fault with for listening to complaints, and this is viewed in the light of a serious delinquency. I had, as already observed, always advised complainants who thought proper to see me, to petition; and I have, I respectfully trust, shown sufficient reasons why I abstained from bringing what I had heard to Mr. Malet's notice, and pursued a different, and which I did not suppose was an irregular course; and I beg again most respectfully and earnestly to entreat, that should your Excellency be of opinion that I had erred in these particulars, your Honour in Council will be indulgently pleased to impute it to no other cause than to the fact of my want of experience and judgment in such matters; else I feel certain I would not have so incautiously committed myself: in the meanwhile I beg most solemnly to assure your Excellency, that while I at no time supposed that such a practice was contrary to rule, I at the same time believed that it was in no way detrimental to the public interests; on the contrary, I had always supposed that it acted as a safeguard against improprieties, and therefore was not prohibited.

3. In conclusion, I beg most submissively to submit this last request, that your Excellency will be graciously pleased, under all circumstances of the case, to afford me a just and patient hearing, and not suffer that I be condemned unheard, or on any *ex parte* statement; while, at the same time, I humbly and most respectfully crave that your Honour in Council will see fit to extend to me every due support and protection against injustice.

I beg, &c.

(signed) *Henry Foster.*
Head Accountant Katt^{r} Pol^{l} Agency.

Rajkote, 10 Nov. 1845.

P. S.—I humbly beg to bring to your Excellency's notice that the usual routine of office business has been altered since my letters were returned here from Government for report. All letters despatched from the agency were hitherto sent to me opened for registering, numbering, and sealing, prior to being sent to the post-office for transmission. They are now registered, &c. and wafered by Captain Aston in charge of the "hoozoor;" so that I beg your Excellency may be aware that as yet I have had no means of knowing the substance of Mr. Malet's reports on my complaint, and beg therefore very respectfully to solicit the favour of being allowed copies of them to vindicate myself.

(signed) *Henry Foster.*

MEMORANDUM by the Political Secretary, without Date.

1. WITH two letters dated the 1st and 4th ultimo, Mr. Foster, head accountant to the Kattywar Agency, has referred a series of complaints against his superior, Mr. Malet, the Political Agent; and has also preferred several charges of bribery and corruption against some of the native members of that officer's establishment. These complaints and charges may be classed under the following heads:—

1st. Several complaints advanced by Mr. Foster against Mr. Malet of harsh and uncourteous treatment.

2d. Complaint by Mr. Foster of his having been unjustly removed by Mr. Malet from the office of English superintendent of Mohsullee.

3d. Animadversions

3d. Animadversions on the official conduct of Mr. Malet and his first assistant, Captain Aston; and,

4th. Charges of bribery and corruption against several members of the native establishment of the Political Agent's office.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

2. Mr. Foster's representations were, on the 23d ultimo, sent in original to Mr. Malet for any explanation he might have to offer, and that gentleman has replied to this reference in two letters, dated the 3d instant. The following is the substance of each of Mr. Foster's complaints and charges, and of Mr. Malet's report upon each of them; which, in order that they may be the more easily understood, have been placed in juxtaposition, and divided under separate heads, with a number attached to each.

Substance of Mr. Foster's Complaints against Mr. Malet, of Harsh and Uncourteous Treatment.	*Substance of Mr. Malet's Explanation.*
No. 1. Mr. Foster states, that in consequence of inexperience in regard to the duties appertaining to the situation of head accountant to the Kattywar Agency, he, during the quarter ending the 30th April 1843, being the first quarter during which he had held that appointment, suffered certain vouchers which had been received from the general paymaster and the military paymaster of the northern division of the army, for payments made from those departments, on account of the Rajkote Agency, to leave that office without Mr. Malet's countersignature being, as ought to have been the case, attached to each document. In consequence of this omission, the Civil Auditor, on these documents reaching his department, returned them (in February 1844) to Mr. Malet, in order that his signature might be attached to them; when Mr. Malet addressed from the districts the following letter to Mr. Foster, then at Rajkote:—	Mr. Malet states, that when he addressed to Mr. Foster the letter of which he complains, he was under an impression (which subsequently proved to be erroneous) that money had been paid from the Rajkote Treasury on documents unsigned either by Mr. Malet or by his assistant; which, being contrary to positive orders, would, if it had been the case, have been a reason for dismissal even without warning. Mr. Malet then states, that he presumes he was satisfied with Mr. Foster's explanation, and considered the fault not having been committed the censure was harmless; but that, at all events, on his return to Rajkote from the districts, he expressed himself pleased with Mr. Foster's general exertions during his absence, which Mr. Malet adds, "should have been sufficient for any reasonable person."

"Mr. Foster,

"You will see by the Civil Auditor's letter the neglect which has occurred in your department from the 1st February to the 30th April 1843. You have now had plenty of time to make yourself fully acquainted with the duties of accountant, and I hope that such will not again occur. You will find that all payments on account of chiefs from their deposits must be supported by the original petition requesting them; all payments to Government of this description must be pointed out in the cash account, and those to mosuls, vakeels, &c. as many have their receipts with them. The irregularity of the payments on drafts without my signature, or that of an assistant in charge, is excessive; if it is ever repeated it will be a reason for your dismissal. Point out the disbursements in the daily-book, which you will send with them when returned for my signature.

(signed) "*A. Malet.*

"Let there be no delay in replying to this audit; it must leave this by the 16th of February.

(signed) "*A. Malet.*"

No. 2. Mr. Foster complains, that the letter above alluded to was sent to him opened through a senior clerk of the department, which he observes was very hurtful to his feelings.	Mr. Malet states, he fancies that in this complaint Mr. Foster alludes to the letter in question having been unsealed, and in that state put up in the packet which was daily made up for Rajkote by the head clerk (a Mr. Wilkinson), who was in the districts with Mr. Malet.
No. 3.—Mr. Foster in alluding to Mr. Malet's return from the districts a few months after he had written to Mr. Foster the letter above alluded to, observes as follows: "I beg now very respectfully to submit the following statement, and as it has reference to events of some distant dates, to	On this subject, Mr. Malet makes the following remarks: "Mr. Foster's diligence in the comparatively subordinate appointment of head clerk, and his exertions in bringing up arrears of accounts, consequent on the late head accountant's illness and death, induced me, notwithstanding that I was

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Mr. Foster's Complaints—continued.

to crave indulgence for intruding on your Excellency's time with the following lengthened detail. In February 1844, certain vouchers were received from the Audit Office for countersignature; these vouchers were not for any actual payments from the Rajkote Treasury, but were sent by the general paymaster and military paymaster, N. D. A., merely for adjustment on the agency books, for payments made by them on account of this agency. I therefore considered Mr. Malet's countersignature was not necessary to such vouchers, and it is well known that in taking up my duties of head accountant, and bringing up the arrears, there was not a single individual in the office who could tell me of the usual course of business. My inexperience therefore led to the omission; though I beg it may be borne in mind, that, as the whole of the vouchers are invariably submitted with the monthly cash account for signature, Mr. Malet might have himself countersigned them, without any reference to me. But without any explanation being called from me regarding the omission of his countersignature to the vouchers, I received the note (No. 1) from Mr. Malet, who was then out on his tour at Joonaghur, threatening me with dismissal should a similar irregularity occur. When it is seen by Mr. Malet's own note, calling on me to point out the disbursements in the 'Daily Book,' that he laboured under an error in supposing that the vouchers were for payments made from his Treasury, which alone need be inserted in the daily book instead; that the vouchers were for payments made by other departments on account of this agency, which, as a matter of course, are necessarily omitted in the daily book; and conscious also of never having given the smallest cause for displeasure in the performance of my duties, I beg leave very respectfully to submit to your Excellency, how far such language was deserved, and even if deserved, how hurtful such treatment must have been naturally felt by me, to see that a note from the Political Agent threatening me with dismissal should be sent to me opened through a junior clerk of the department. After offering Mr. Malet an explanation regarding the nature of the vouchers, and the cause as above stated of the omission of his countersignature to them, I was led to solicit from him the favour of effecting my transfer to some other public office, even on a reduced salary, preferring to undergo a pecuniary sacrifice, rather than risk the pain and disgrace of dismissal; for in a department of accounts, I am humbly of opinion, that it is a matter of difficulty to be too careful. Mr. Malet told me, in reply, that it was not in his power to effect my transfer, and that I could not leave before a successor was found in my place. I would here respectfully observe, whether the inconsiderate manner I had been treated, was not enough to drive, however reluctant, any subordinate who felt any respect for his position, at once to relinquish his appointment; and indeed, were it not for the kind advice of a gentleman now here, I would at the time have imprudently tendered my resignation, and quietly sought employment elsewhere. Mr. Malet returned to Rajkote on the 13th June following; I waited on him the following day, with my subordinates, to pay my respects. In the midst of my discouragements, and these were not a few, I had the satisfaction to learn that he was quite satisfied with my exertions during his absence for a little more than seven months; and I should think it could not otherwise have been the case, having had all the accounts despatched from Rajkote to Bombay and elsewhere within the prescribed dates; though in the first instance I had to send them out for Mr. Malet's signature to his camp, which for some time halted at the distant stages of Palitana and Bhownuggur.

Mr. Malet's Explanation—continued.

was obliged to attribute the correctness of the accounts chiefly to a person named Girdhur Lal, whom I had nominated to aid him, to recommend him to Government for the appointment which he obtained; an appointment which has often since been a subject of regret to me; for his ungovernable temper and overweening vanity, coupled with such an exacting spirit as is most intolerable to all his subordinates, have given rise to such frequent quarrels, often to the detriment of public business, and so many mutual complaints, that I have had the greatest difficulty in composing them. These faults, sufficient altogether to disqualify a man for the situation he holds, either from his subordinate appointment or through great carefulness on his part, were, until his new appointment, so much smaller in degree, as not to lead me to apprehend any great difficulty in dealing with him; but since that time I could not have conscientiously recommended Mr. Foster to any other office, and therefore had no alternative, but by impartial investigation of his quarrels in the office, to endeavour to allay the irritation which I could not eradicate. If any bias on my part existed, it was towards him as the senior clerk, and I have several times privately reprehended him for his conduct while officially deciding in his favour. As to Mr. Foster's self-praise, I repeat that it is to Girdhur Lal's great application and knowledge of accounts that he is indebted for the punctual performance of his duties. I do not deny to Mr. Foster the merit of keeping his subordinates well to their work, with a knowledge of English superior to that of many persons in his line of life, and a great anxiety to have his accounts always ready in time, and this is considerable praise; but without some good qualities to counterbalance his faults, he would not have got the appointment, or never could have retained it."

4. Mr.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Mr. Foster's Complaints—continued.

No. 4. Mr. Foster complains that, instead of following the practice formerly observed of referring direct to him (Mr. Foster) for information or explanation on all points connected with the department of accounts, Mr. Malet has, since Captain Jacob left the Rajkote agency (in January 1843), made his references to the native accountant and treasurer through the native agent.

Mr. Malet's Explanation—continued.

Mr. Malet observes, that he makes references concerning accounts where he expects the quickest information; and that, although he does not remember any particular instance, he has found that Mr. Foster has been obliged, when formerly referred to by Mr. Malet for information, to obtain the same from the native department; and that it was sometimes altered, although not intentionally, in its passage through Mr. Foster, who, from his want of patience or of properly understanding the natives of the account department, has obliged Mr. Malet on several occasions to go through intricate inquiries to the delay of other business, in matters which Mr. Foster, as head accountant, ought to have been able to arrange.

No. 5. Mr. Foster states that, from the year 1820 up to the period of Captain Jacob leaving the Rajkote agency in January 1843, it had been usual for the native accountant and the treasury establishment to prefer through the head accountant (the situation Mr. Foster fills) all applications for leave either on account of holidays or sickness; but that from the latter period these applications have been made through the native agent, and that no intimation is now given to him (Mr. Foster) that leave has been granted, although his duties and those of the native accountant and the treasury establishment are with him, and his entirely with them.

Mr. Malet states, in reply to this complaint, that he cannot recollect any instance to which Mr. Foster may allude; but that it is not unlikely that, if Mr. Foster had left the office before application for leave was made, that it has been granted by Mr. Malet on application by the native agent.

No. 6. Mr. Foster states, that instructions regarding the sale of unserviceable dead stock, &c., which, in the first instance, were hitherto given to the head accountant, as being the officer who conducted and still conducts the agency sales so far as the accounts are concerned, and by him communicated to subordinates, are now, in the first place, "given to the native agent, by him communicated to subordinates, and by them to me. In these and various other respects have the duties of the native agent been increased in importance, though not in labour, since Mr. Malet's appointment to the agency, at the expense and detriment of mine, without any cause or any reason whatever that I am aware of."

In reply to this complaint, Mr. Malet observes as follows: "As to the sales, I do not know what he can mean, except that, as the requisite documents from chiefs, attachment mehtas, &c., come to hand, the order is given on them; and it may have been communicated first to Mr. Foster from that order instead of direct. But he well knows that no sale ever takes place until he has received orders on the subject; and so tenacious is he (it involves a per-centage) on this subject, that he once made a formal complaint to me, that a Guzerattee sale list had been submitted to me for sanction before he had sent in his English one. It was not the case; the prices of the articles had been noted down and shown to me; but the English sale list is the only one I sign."

No. 7. Mr. Foster states, that in August 1842, having previously been employed by Captain Jacob to assist in remodelling the system on which the Mohsullee fund had previously been conducted, he was appointed by that officer sole superintendent of Mohsullee, and permitted to draw for this extra duty an allowance of 20 rupees per mensem. Mr. Foster states, that he continued to draw this allowance until the middle of September last, when he was removed from the charge as superintendent of Mohsullee, and deprived of the allowance, in consequence of his having "in a moment of great excitement and distress of mind," occasioned by "Mr. Malet's harsh bearing towards him," addressed the following letter to Mr. Malet. Mr. Foster complains, that although Mr. Malet afterwards permitted him to withdraw this letter, he accompanied such permission by an order removing him from the office of superintendent, and conferring it on Mr. Wilkinson, the head clerk, who is junior in the office to Mr. Foster:—

Mr. Malet observes, that Mr. Foster, while assuming to himself the credit of the reforms which were introduced by Captain Jacob, has not made any allusion "to the able assistance he (Mr. Foster) has in his account department." Mr. Malet states, that when the situation of superintendent of Mohsullee was conferred on Mr. Foster, he held the same appointment that Mr. Wilkinson, the present superintendent, now fills, namely, that of head clerk, who Mr. Malet considers to be the proper person to conduct this duty. Mr. Malet at the same time observes, that he did not deprive Mr. Foster of the appointment of superintendent on his promotion from head clerk to head accountant, in consequence of his successor (Mr. Wilkinson) "being a new man, unaccustomed to such work." Mr. Malet further states as follows:—"I found it necessary to make Mr. Wilkinson superintendent while in the districts with me, so that he soon learned the duties; and, but for my dislike to deprive Mr. Foster of it altogether, should then have permanently

"Sir,

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others

Mr. Foster's Complaints—continued.

"Sir,

"I consider the tone of your reply to my explanation of yesterday quite arbitrary and unauthoritative; and I beg therefore, in sending the accompanying Mohsull chit, most respectfully to state my willingness to stand the consequences, whatever they may be, rather than yield submission to such overbearing language. I have feelings as well as the best, and I don't suppose that as a public servant holding a respectable situation, and subject to the most courteous consideration from the Government itself, that I shall be suffered to be treated in this manner. The sneer evinced in your reply regarding my feelings, would, I consider, be undignified in a Government towards the most humble of its subjects, much less in any one of its servants towards a respectable subordinate."

"16 September 1845."

Mr. Malet's Explanation—continued.

permanently received the appointment, which, while he is with the Political Agent in the districts, he alone in the English department can perform."

"Yours, &c.
(signed) *H. Foster.*"

No. 8. Mr. Foster states, that in conformity with orders issued by Government in the Financial Department in March last, the salaries of the members of the establishment attached to the Rajkote agency have been paid in the Company's rupees, instead of in the local currency as heretofore; and that, in consequence of this arrangement, the pay of Bhugwan Lal has been reduced on account of the difference of exchange from 300 sicca rupees to Company's rupees 279. 8. Mr. Foster then states, that in order to bear Bhugwan Lal harmless from this loss, Mr. Malet has, without any authority from Government, created the new appointment of "native superintendent of Mohsullee," with a salary attached to it of 20 rupees per mensem, and which he has conferred upon Bhugwan Lal. This disbursement is made from the Mohsullee fund, which is not brought on the public accounts. Mr. Foster states, that he considers this new appointment to be a sinecure, and that it has been made solely with the view of indemnifying Bhugwan Lal for the diminution in the amount of his monthly salary on account of exchange.

Mr. Malet states, that in consequence of the inconvenience arising from the change of superintendents, and from the fact that all irregularities of the Mohsuls while on duty can be detected in the Native department alone, and that in that constant vigilance and superintendence are necessary, he long since determined to make Bhugwan Lal superintendent of Mohsulee in the Native department; but that he was deterred from giving it him, in consequence of the accusations of bribery and corruption which were pending against him. Mr. Malet states that, on the acquittal of Bhugwan Lal on these charges, there was nothing to prevent his receiving this appointment; and he (Mr. Malet) therefore gave it to him, to commence from the next half-year, thereby completing the establishment in both its branches, native and English.

No. 9. Mr. Foster states, that on the death in June 1845, of Chemun Rao, a carkoon on the Mohsullee establishment, who drew a salary of 20 rupees per mensem, Mr. Malet conferred the vacant appointment on the brother of Goolabraee, the head carkoon of the First Assistant Political Agent, to the prejudice of Chemun Row, the brother and other relatives of the deceased, who applied for the vacancy, and who had a superior claim of Goolabreaee's brother, in consequence of their having performed duties without payment (as candidates) in the same department, in the hope of receiving some appointment on a vacancy.

Mr. Malet states, that Chemun Rao, the brother of the deceased, is only 12 years of age; and that, but for his extreme youth, he would have been appointed to the vacancy. That Bhugwan Lal solicited the appointment in behalf of a friend, but his request was refused, and the situation was conferred upon the cousin (and not the brother as stated by Mr. Foster) of Goolabraee, thus putting a relation of the First Assistant's ill-paid karkoon (Goolabraee) into an appointment with which his own duties are unconnected.

No. 10. Mr. Foster complains that, with the view of injuring him, Bhugwan Lal, after his appointment as native superintendent of Mohsullee, made several misrepresentations to Mr. Malet, in regard to errors having been made in entries in the English Mohsullee Register, but that for these errors he (Mr. Foster) was in no way responsible, since they had been made in the kutcheree, over which he has no control since Bhugwan Lal was appointed native superintendent of Mohsullee. Mr. Foster states that he, in consequence, strongly remonstrated against the interference,

Mr. Malet submits the following explanation on the subject of this complaint: "The irregularities noticed by Mr. Foster, as made matter of accusation against him by Bhugwanlal, did exist, and had never been reported by Mr. Foster; but as they were trifling, consisting chiefly of persons who, in strict right, should not have been on the roll, I thought it better, to prevent discord (a fruitless attempt), to pass them over. But to prevent in future any improper persons being brought on the roll, I directed that all new names which Mr. Foster might receive from

Mr. Foster's Complaints—continued.

interference, for the future, of Bhugwan Lal in the Mohsullee department, to the extent he had exercised since his appointment as native superintendent of Mohsullee; but that instead of obtaining redress, Mr. Malet curtailed his (Mr. Foster's) authority and privileges in the Mohsullee department, and transferred the portion of which he was deprived to Bhugwan Lal.

No. 11. Mr. Foster complains that, in consequence of his having, for reasons which he attempts to show were proper, and in conformity with the general rules in force in the Mohsullee department, demurred to enter in a Mohsullee chit the name of a person called Myashunker, he received the following note from Mr. Malet:

"Mr. Foster,—I wrote an order in the Mohsul book, that you were to enter the names given you from the kutcheree by my order, noting the same opposite them in the book for my information; and I am now told that Mahshunkur's name is refused by you. How is this? Enter it, and give me your reasons for your refusal.

15th. (signed) *"A. Malet."*

To this Mr. Foster returned the following reply:

"Sir,—The mujmoodar told me that it was the native agent's order that the name of the Bramin should be inserted. I therefore declined inserting it; and, moreover, he was one of the rejected classes. I inserted the name before receiving your note, though I beg very respectfully to state, that I feel aggrieved having, as the head of the department in the English office, to receive my order through the Native department."

On receipt of this reply, Mr. Malet issued the following order to Mr. Foster: "Mr. Foster,—Enter his name as I directed, and act for the future as I ordered in my note of Saturday. There is no cause for your feeling aggrieved." On receipt of this order, Mr. Foster states that, "in a moment of great excitement and distress of mind," he addressed to Mr. Malet the letter above noticed under the 7th head of complaint, but which Mr. Malet subsequently allowed him to withdraw. Mr. Foster complains of his having, in consequence of this note, been removed from the appointment of "superintendent of Mohsullee in the English department," and solicits that he may be restored to that situation.

No. 12. Mr. Foster states, that in August 1844 Mr. Malet questioned him in regard to his knowledge of a person named "Man Khan," one of the parties who during the last two years has preferred accusations of bribery and corruption against Bhugwanlal, Goolabraee, and other members of Mr. Malet's native establishment. Mr. Foster states that he informed Mr. Malet that he had seen Man Khan "only the previous morning while on his ride," when this person had accosted him, in the presence of a large assemblage of persons,

Mr. Malet's Explanation—continued.

from the kutcheree should be noticed as brought on by my order; for I had strictly forbidden any new names being put on the roll without my permission, and it was necessary that this note should be affixed to bring each to my notice. Mr. Foster knew he could, at any time, when persons might be wanting, recommend any person for entry on the roll; sure that, if good reasons against him did not exist, I should permit it."

In reply to this complaint, Mr. Malet states as follows: "As to Mahshunker, Mr. Foster demurred to entering his name in a Mohsullee chit, which was issued for the express purpose of obtaining payment of some balance of Mohsullee due to him from Bhudwana, where he had been on duty since 1841; and Mr. Foster, in refusing to enter his name, would have broken through an invariable rule, which is always, in default of payment, to send a man to collect the balance of his own dues. On receiving Mr. Foster's most disrespectful note, I dismissed him from the Mohsullee department, and gave him half an hour to withdraw it. He did so immediately; had he not, I should have suspended him from his appointment as head accountant, and reported the case to Government; he has now cancelled the withdrawal, and must take the consequences. The withdrawal of his note could not cause me to reinstate him in the Mohsullee department; I therefore entered in the book the order for Mr. Wilkinson, as English superintendent, who holds now precisely the appointment, that of head clerk, which Mr. Foster enjoyed when he was made superintendent. Mr. Foster's remarks on my note, in reply to his, No. 4, appear to me quite uncalled for; more especially as he must have underscored the word 'feeling' himself, for I certainly did not, and it could never call for such a reply as that which he has had the effrontery, after withdrawing, to submit to Government. I beg, therefore, that as he has cancelled by such conduct my kind intentions, the consequences may ensue; as the whole of his production is not only so extremely improper, but shows his own impropriety of conduct so glaringly, that, after its perusal, I can no longer have the slightest trust in him, nor submit to official intercourse with him. I most respectfully request his removal."

On this point Mr. Malet reports as follows: "It was reported to me, that during the time Man Khan's accusation against my establishment, my head accountant (Mr. Foster) had been seen speaking to him; I warned him against mixing with such characters, and told him, I think, at the same time, that any complaint he might make of his own knowledge would be listened to with attention. Man Khan, on a reclamation made for him as a convicted thief by the Nawab of Joonaghur, was confined in default of

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Mr Foster's Complaints—continued.

persons, to the following effect: "Sir, the Sahib (meaning Mr. Malet) has sent a horseman to Joonaghur for the chopras with which I could be able to substantiate my accusations against Bhugwan Lal, the native agent. This is true; but it is no less true that, long before this was done, Bhugwan Lal dispatched two cossids post-haste to his friend and relative, Unutjee Umurchund, the minister of Joonaghur, to conceal them, and that under this circumstance I make quite certain the choopras will not be coming." Mr. Foster says that this person besought him to speak to Mr. Malet on the subject, but that in reply he recommended the applicant to submit a petition on the subject to Mr. Malet. Mr. Foster disputes the right of Mr. Malet to have put any interrogatories to him in reference to the subject of his conversation with Man Khan on the preceding morning; and states that it has always been his impression that this was done "either with a view to bring about a complaint against him (Mr. Foster), if possible, or that it might have the effect of intimidating him even in listening in future to representations of a like nature."

No. 13. Mr. Foster states, that if Bhugwan Lal, the native agent, "had been actually suspended, *i. e.* if he were relieved from all duties, and restricted from attending the kutcheree, but only at the bungalow, and then only during the course of his trial, instead of being allowed, as he was, not only to attend at the kutcheree and occupy his usual seat, or gadee, but also do business of some kind, and have access to the bungalow even during holidays, as well in the absence of his accusers, and when no other karkoon attended business, I make no doubt that a number of other accusations, besides those gone into, would, as stated in Mr. Malet's letter, No. 56, dated 12th April, para. 13, have been preferred, and substantiated on the clearest evidence before an impartial tribunal."

No. 14. Mr. Foster states that the parties who were able to substantiate charges of bribery and corruption against Bhugwan Lal, "believing as they did that the door of justice was shut against them, they have, he (Mr. Foster) is aware, appealed to several officers in camp, and among them to him (Mr. Foster) supposing that from his position in the agency it was not unlikely that, like his predecessors, he had it in his power to mention their grievances to the Political Agent, but he regrets to state that this was was not the case."

No. 15. Mr. Foster states, that on the 10th April last Lieutenant Loch, superintendent of the Guicowar, was deputed by Mr. Malet to Joonaghur, for the purpose of procuring copies of accounts of a banker named Luwa Velas, and which Lieutenant Loch forwarded to Mr. Malet on the 12th of the same month. These documents, Mr. Foster states, were, he believes, called for by Hubeeb Khan, and are said to possess the clearest

Mr. Malet's Explanation—continued.

of obtaining security, and released on the day after I received a reply from Joonaghur to my requisition, grounded on the 3d para. of your letter, No. 3,115, October 11th (1844). There was no doubt of his guilt; but as he had been at Joonaghur since the crime, and was not seized (his former employers were then in power), I refused to give him up. As to the kosids, the only thing concerning them, which I am aware of, is that two, who had brought letters from Bhugwan Lal's family, were detained by him at Rajkote until the return of my suwar from Joonaghur."

Mr. Malet, in reply to this statement, observes as follows: "My proceedings in the case of Bhugwan Lal's suspension were reported to Government; the only new thing I perceive in it is the assertion that he was in the habit of visiting me during native holidays. I remember but one occasion, on which he came to complain that a retainer of Nooroodeen's had been heard to utter threats, from which he considered that his life would be attempted in case of acquittal."

Note.—In the Government letter, dated the 3d July last, Mr. Malet was informed "that whilst Bhugwan Lal was under suspension he ought not to have been permitted to frequent the Political Agent's office, or to have been in any way employed by his assistant, Captain Aston."

Mr. Malet states that he is aware that gentlemen in camp were applied to for their interest with him, and he is also aware that in a late instance money was offered to one young officer should he obtain a favourable consideration of his suit; and that whether such a stimulus, beyond his own revengeful and ungovernable feelings, has prompted Mr. Foster to his defence of Nooroodeen and Hubeeb Khan, and his accusations, he cannot say, but it appears to him probable, more especially as Lieut.-colonel Cunninghame, who on one occasion turned out of his house a man who wished him to use influence with Mr. Malet, is not included in Mr. Foster's committee, from which Mr. Malet infers a knowledge of that fact by Mr. Foster.

Mr. Malet submits the following explanation upon this point:—"Captain Loch sent to me from Joonaghur extracts from a banker's books, and a deposition. The papers were exactly those which I had required; but so far from their containing any evidence against Bhugwan Lal and Goolabraee, they contained merely some accounts between a mehta named Anudjee Doolubjee, Hubeeb Khan, and Mahdooraee (Goolabraee's

Mr. Foster's Complaints—continued.

clearest evidence to convict either Bhugwan Lal or both, of receiving at one time the sum of 1,000 korees, and at another time 2,000 korees, as bribes. No inquiry, however, Mr. Foster states, was made into these accusations, neither has the circumstance of Lieutenant Loch proceeding on this duty to Joonaghur been alluded to in any of Mr. Malet's reports, nor has any mention been made to Government of these extracts from the banker's accounts. Mr. Foster further observes, that it likewise appears remarkable why Mr. Malet's letter, dated 10th April, to Lieutenant Loch, calling for these extracts, and that officer's reply of the 12th of the same month, forwarding them, have not as yet been placed on office record, but that a blank place of about a side and a half has been left for their entry.

No. 16. With his letter, dated the 4th ultimo, Mr. Foster has forwarded a statement of five distinct fresh charges against Bhugwan Lal, Golabraee, and Ametjee Amurchund, karbaree of Rajcote, of their having received bribes on the occasions therein mentioned to a very considerable amount. Mr. Foster observes, that none of these charges have ever been investigated, and he is willing to stake his situation, that if Government will suspend Bhugwan Lal and Golabraee, and order a committee composed of the officers named in the margin,* or, if more convenient, of Captain Lang, the Political Agent in the Mahee Caunta, to investigate these charges, he will be able to substantiate them, together with his complaints against Mr. Malet above noticed, to the satisfaction of Government; or in default, he is willing "to stand the just penalty of being deprived of his appointment, and the disgrace of dismissal." An outline of each of these charges accompanies Mr. Foster's letter of the 4th ultimo.

Mr. Malet's Explanation—continued.

braee's brother, but not in the Government service); they were so useless that they remained with me unthought of until now, when I have placed them on record. The draft of my letter to that officer has been mislaid, but there can be no reason against its entry, and I can get it from him for that purpose when he returns from his leave."

Mr. Malet has reported upon each of the charges seriatim in the 9th to 14th paras. of his letter dated the 3d instant, No. 180. Mr. Malet states his belief that the first three charges mentioned in Mr. Foster's statement are entirely groundless; refutes in the most unqualified terms the fourth charge, but in regard to the fifth charge, in which Mr. Foster accuses Bhugwanlal and Goolabraee of having each received, in the early part of 1842, bribes stated to amount to 6,000 korees, Mr. Malet does not appear to have given a very clear report.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

* 1. Lieut.-colonel Stalker.
2. Major Down.
3. Lieut. L. M. Valiant.

3. In two subsequent letters, dated the 7th and 10th instant, which Mr. Malet has not seen, Mr. Foster has advanced several further complaints against Mr. Malet, both of a personal and public nature. In the former of these letters, Mr. Foster complains of Mr. Malet having, on the 4th instant, addressed a letter to him to the effect quoted in the margin,† and of that gentleman having set an inquiry on foot for the purpose of ascertaining whether Mr. Foster has at any time received visits from Shet Nooroodeen, or had interviews with that person at his own house. In the latter communication, Mr. Foster alleges that a difficulty at present exists for suitors to obtain access to the Political Agent, "occasioned," he states, "probably by parties holding employment in the agency, to serve some selfish or other end." Mr. Foster, in support of his statement, alleges that in January last a suitor who despaired of obtaining access to Mr. Malet, had recourse "to the desperate expedient of oiling himself and his clothes, and of setting himself on fire" in the Agency compound, in order to attract the notice of Mr. Malet.

† *See* below.

4. Mr. Foster further states, that if a committee be appointed to investigate his complaints and accusations against Bhugwan Lal and Goolabraee, he will endeavour to prove other charges of bribery and corruption against those persons.

† No. 728 of 1845.

"Mr. Foster,

"I have received from Government for my report, your letters of the 1st and 4th October, from which I find that you are in the habit of listening to complaints against my native establishment; I therefore send you this peremptory order that you will confine yourself to your particular duties as head accountant, and on no account visit or receive any visits from natives, nor listen to any complaints whatever until the orders of Government on the subject of your two letters above alluded to, may be made known to you.

(signed) "*A. Malet*,
"Political Agent."

"Nanuggur, 4 November 1845."

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

sons. Mr. Foster at the same time states, that since Government lately referred his statements to Mr. Malet, he has been subject to more severe treatment and restrictions than were adopted towards Bhugwanlal when the late investigation into the charges made against that individual was in progress, and that (his) Mr. Foster's usual routine of office business has been altered since he submitted his statement to Government. Finally, Mr. Foster solicits that his complaints against Mr. Malet, and his accusations against Bhugwanlal and Golabraee, may meet with a just and patient hearing, and that in order to vindicate himself he may be furnished with copies of Mr. Malet's reports on his (Mr. Foster's) statements.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Chief Secretary.

No. 510. MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

IN circulating these papers I have only a few remarks to make with reference to the accompanying precis.

1. It is certainly to be regretted that Mr. Malet, on discovering the erroneous nature of the belief under which he had penned his letter to Mr. Foster, did not at once acknowledge that Mr. Foster was not, as he had been led to suppose, chargeable with negligence and unacquaintance with his work. At the same time, after reading Mr. Malet's explanation, I think that Mr. Foster might have been quite satisfied with the subsequent approbation of Mr. Malet, from whose mind the allusion to dismissal had then probably passed away.

2. I do not see why Mr. Foster should have urged as a grievance the matter noticed under this head.

3. From Mr. Malet's explanation of this third head of grievance, it is evident that he censured Mr. Foster under an impression subsequently found to be erroneous, that he had committed a great irregularity. I have already observed, that it would have been better if Mr. Malet, on discovering his error, had acknowledged it to Mr. Foster, from whose mind, however, all ground of dissatisfaction should have been removed by Mr. Malet's expression of his approbation when he returned to Rajcote.

4. This would have been better answered by reference to instances in which Mr. Malet had experienced the inconvenience to which he refers; but his explanation seems satisfactory, and Mr. Foster's complaint frivolous.

5. This likewise is a frivolous complaint, even if it be well founded, for the head of an office must exercise his own discretion in such matters.

6. The remark I have made with regard to the fifth head of grievance applies also to this, and I think that Mr. Malet's explanation is quite satisfactory.

7. The tone of Mr. Foster's letter alluded to under this head is, in my opinion, exceedingly improper and disrespectful. Mr. Malet's explanation I consider to be quite satisfactory.

8. It is perhaps a pity that Mr. Malet should just at that juncture have made an addition to Bhugwan Lall's salary without reference to Government, and from the Mohusulee fund; but his explanation seems satisfactory, and the matter was clearly one with which Mr. Foster had no concern, and his allegation of such a charge against his superior officer is therefore highly improper.

9. This is a very objectionable and underhand charge of Mr. Foster; and in his manner of adducing it he has been virtually untruthful, by omitting to notice essential particulars bearing against his own statements. It shows the acrimony with which he has been hunting for accusations against Mr. Malet, and how he has constituted himself a judge and critic of the acts of his superior in a very unauthorised manner. The petty appointment referred to was vested in the Political Agent to confer upon whomsoever he deemed most fit.

10. This

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

10. This charge does not seem to be specially answered in Mr. Malet's reply, though his general explanation is just, and the accusation itself is so vague and undefined that further inquiry would be difficult, and seems unnecessary.

11. The score under the word feeling in Mr. Malet's order here alluded to, which the Political Agent says he did not make, should certainly not have been added by any one else, or having been so, this should have been explained. The addition gives to the note a character which was not designed, and need not have been attributed. Mr. Foster's reply is most highly disrespectful.

12. The explanation of this point seems quite satisfactory, if indeed any was needed, for it required some ingenuity to find any cause of grievance in the matters reported by Mr. Foster; this complaint, therefore, against the head of his department is a further instance of the impropriety of Mr. Foster's conduct.

13. The extract from one of the Board's letters to Mr. Malet contained in the note to this charge expresses my sentiments on the point to which it refers. The concluding clause of Mr. Foster's statement contains a most improper and unjustifiable insinuation against the proceedings of the Political Agent, and is a further evidence of Mr. Foster's rancour.

14. These insinuations of dishonesty, bearing as they do on mere vague rumour and reports, are exceedingly culpable, and, moreover, quite irrelevant to the matter in hand; if, however, they were to be made at all, they should not have been made loosely and without precision, but instances should have been quoted which appeared to support the view offered by the accuser; as it is, they are quite indefensible.

15. It is to be regretted that Mr. Malet did not at once record the papers here alluded to, which he certainly should have done. His explanation, however, of the circumstances is satisfactory, and serves to show the recklessness with which Mr. Foster has founded complaints on matters of which he is quite ignorant, and the little care he has taken to assure himself of the truth of his assumptions.

16. If the subject of this number is to be entered upon at all, it must be in detail, and by judicial inquiry. I beg to be favoured with Mr. Reid's opinion as to the manner in which we should dispose of it, whilst it is our duty to uphold the character and respectability of our native servants, statements affecting their integrity should always, in my opinion, be investigated if coming from a source entitled to credit.

17. The observation I have applied to the last head is applicable also to the matter noticed in the two concluding paras. of the within memorandum.

18. The most serious of all the charges advanced against Mr. Malet seems to me to be that contained in a marginal note to para. 4 of Mr. Foster's first letter. I am not aware that it is specially alluded to by Mr. Malet, nor is it quoted in this precis; it is, however, touched by the explanation in regard to No. 15, but may require further notice.

19. On the whole, after carefully considering the several allegations and replies contained in these papers, I have been led to the conclusion that Mr. Foster's conduct in the matter is quite inexcusable.

20. In many instances his complaints are quite frivolous, and merely vexatious (Nos. 4, 5, 6. 12); and in many others exceedingly disrespectful and insobordinate (Nos. 7, 8, 9. 11. 13, 14, 15).

21. His letter to Mr. Malet, referred to in para. 11, and his subsequent insinuations against that gentleman's general character and the justice of his decisions in some late inquiries, render it, in my opinion, impossible that he should longer be left on the establishment of the Political Agency.

Before offering any final opinion on this point, however, I shall be glad to be favoured with the opinion of my colleagues.

6 December 1845. (signed) *G. Arthur.*
T. M'Mahon.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 511.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Crawford.*

I CONCUR generally in the view taken by the Honourable the President of this case, but will await the opinion he desires to receive from Mr. Reid on the matter adverted to in the 16th and 17th paras. of this minute before offering any myself as to our future course respecting them. Supposing, however, all Mr. Foster's allegations of corruption in the native establishment of the Rajkote Political Agency to be proved, it would not justify Mr. Foster's offensive and ill-founded representations against Mr. Malet, and I think it quite impossible that he can be allowed to remain on the establishment of that Agency any longer.

Monday, 8 December 1845. (signed) *J. H. Crawford.*

No. 512.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Reid.*

THIS is one of those cases which it is extremely difficult satisfactorily to dispose of, since while it is impossible, in my opinion, to found proceedings on such vague and evidently tainted information as that given by Mr. Foster, it is at the same time desirable to avoid even the appearance of rejecting what may really be valid charges against the parties named. But I think, after giving the subject full consideration, that, as the matter is at present before us, no judicial inquiry whatever is called for.

2. It is obvious that Mr. Foster has imbibed the most rancorous feeling against his superior, Mr. Malet, and certain members of his establishment, in consequence of some fancied slights which have been put upon him, and his having been deprived of a petty office, and that he has set himself up as the redresser of grievances, and the receptacle of the complaints of all unsuccessful parties whose affairs may have come under the control of the Agency.

3. In no country, perhaps, are there more petty disputes which require for their settlement the interference of the British authorities, than in the district of Kattewar. The numerous chiefs of that province have constant causes of disagreement, either within their own estates and families, or with their neighbours on every side. The decision of such cases must give to our native agents great opportunities of benefiting, and I dare say few cases occur in which the unsuccessful party does not declare (whether truly or falsely) that his ill success is owing to those agents having been corrupted by his adversary. Any one, therefore, becoming a ready listener to such complaints, would no doubt be soon able to compile a volume of them, especially if he was notoriously at variance with the native agents, and in such a position that he could hold out to the parties resorting to him the prospect of being able, through his means, to procure a hearing of their version of the story before another tribunal. But information from such a source, I think, the Government should at once reject.

4. Parties aggrieved by any acts of Mr. Malet, or desirous of accusing his subordinates of malpractices, are at perfect liberty to prefer their own complaints either to the agent, or direct to Government. It would be the height of injustice, on the information of a third party, wholly unconnected with the affairs which he takes upon himself to represent, and who is a complainant from avowed motives of hostility, to listen to rumours and fabricated stories, and to suspend from their situations the men whom it is the expressed object of the informant to ruin, or to take the cognizance of charges against them, (even supposing such to have been properly preferred,) out of the hands of the agent, and to place it in those of a separate office, or of a commission.

5. Mr. Foster's statements abound in the expressions "it is said," and "it is believed," and in assertions that such and such facts "will be found" if certain papers are examined, or certain persons questioned. He can have no personal knowledge of the facts he alleges. He has evidently joined a party in opposition to the native officers whom he accuses, and has been tutored by his associates to embody in a connected detail the thousand rumours which abound in this

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

this hotbed of plotting and intrigue. The statement of cases accompanying his letter of the 4th of October last, has the appearance of being a translation of a native document, or of having been taken down from the narration of a native. The facts are exactly such as would be assigned by losing parties as the causes of their ill success, or would occur to others who were mere spectators of the events passing in these petty native states, where a party is one day in power and the next in disgrace, and where no one is supposed to gain his ends without the exercise of those arts of corruption and intrigue which seem especially to thrive in that part of the country.

6. I would therefore inform Mr. Foster, that the Government altogether declines to receive from him any representations on matters in which he is not personally concerned, and that any individuals aggrieved by the acts of Mr. Malet or his native establishment, or desirous of bringing forward charges against them, will receive redress on making their cases known to the Political Agent or the Government.

7. I entirely concur in the opinion of the Honourable the President and Mr. Crawford, that Mr. Foster cannot be permitted to retain his situation in the office of the Political Agent. His behaviour has been so utterly void of respect to his official superior, his feelings of rancour and malignity so unhesitatingly displayed, and his abuse of his position as a servant of Government, in lending himself to the factious intrigues of disappointed suitors, so palpable, that he cannot, in my opinion, be too soon removed from the Rajkote establishment. I would not declare him incapable of employment elsewhere, but I would not appoint him to any other office, as I think it would be unfair to any head of a department to place under him a man of whose reckless and improper conduct we have such a display before us.

8. I wish Mr. Malet had been more explicit in his remarks on the cases submitted. He should have given the fullest explanation upon each, noticing those facts which are admitted, and explaining his motives in each stage of his proceedings. He may perhaps have thought that accusations dictated by such rancorous animosity as that exhibited by Mr. Foster, deserved no further notice than that he has given them. But it is a prudent precaution at least to listen to all information, however obtained; and although (as in the present instance) it may not be such as to justify the institution of formal proceedings, yet it may deserve to be carefully scrutinised, and may point out the path by which a knowledge of the truth may be attained.

18 December 1845. (signed) *L. R. Reid.*

FURTHER MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor. No. 513.

I CONCUR with my colleagues in regard to the propriety of Mr. Foster's removal from the establishment of the Rajcote Agency.

It will not be necessary to prohibit his re-employment in any Government office, but I agree with Mr. Reid, that we should not, for the present at least, provide him with another situation.

Even should no regular investigation be ordered into the charges preferred by Mr. Foster against the natives on the Agency establishment, I would not wish to inform him "that we altogether decline receiving from him any representations on matters in which he is not personally concerned." It is for the interest of Government that its public offices should not be filled with corrupt men; and if Mr. Foster should be able to show good evidence of any acts of criminality on their part, we should not, I think, be justified in omitting to assure ourselves of the purity of those whom we employ.

It might therefore be sufficient to remind Mr. Foster, that all aggrieved parties in Kattywar, as elsewhere, may make their own appeals to Government, and obtain redress in the usual way, and that his interference as an accuser can only be justified by the simultaneous production of satisfactory evidence of the guilt he alleges, and by specification in every such instance of all localities, names,

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

names, and dates which may be requisite to afford the means of bringing each particular charge home to the accused in every particular case.

I shall be glad, however, to hear Mr. Crawford's opinion, which he expressed himself prepared to give on receipt of Mr. Reid's observations.

19 December 1845. (signed) *G. Arthur.*

No. 514. FURTHER MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Crawford.*

MR. REID has entered so fully into this case, and taken, I think, so correct a view of it, that I really have nothing to add to what he has said on the matters before us.

I am afraid that the adoption of the course proposed in the last para. but one of the Honourable the President's Minute, would produce a repetition of Mr. Foster's complaints, ending in nothing when they came to be sifted, and had occupied much valuable time that might be far more beneficially appropriated, and I am therefore disposed to adopt Mr. Reid's recommendation throughout. Complaining parties will have no difficulty, I apprehend, in obtaining Mr. Foster's zealous co-operation in placing these alleged grievances before Government in their own names, if they desire to become applicants for its assistance; and if they do not desire our aid under such personal responsibility, as to the justice of their complaints, as direct complaint would impose on them, I do not think the unsolicited and unrequired interference of another party would induce them to bring forward evidence, even if existing, to support Mr. Foster's proceedings in their behalf. I cannot, therefore, apprehend any real mischief from discarding Mr. Foster's representations hereafter.

19 December 1845. (signed) *J. H. Crawford.*

No. 515. FURTHER MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor.

I WAS not aware that Government or any authority could, with propriety, decline to receive from any quarter any charge against one of its servants which might be supported by adequate evidence.

I was therefore unwilling to make such an intimation in the present instance.

From the first para. of his Minute, it appeared to me that Mr. Reid saw the difficulty in the same light.

20 December 1845. (signed) *G. Arthur.*

No. 516. FURTHER MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Crawford.*

I HAVE nothing to add to my former Minutes.

20 December 1845. (signed) *J. H. Crawford.*

No. 517. FURTHER MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Reid.*

I CONSIDER it incumbent on every servant of Government, whatever may be his rank or station, to give information of malpractices which he may be aware of as going on in the branch of the service to which he may be attached, and it is far from my wish to discourage such exposures. But I do not think we should give encouragement to a servant who may, from motives of private revenge, and not from a pure sense of duty, bring charges against his fellows, or impugn the conduct of his superior in matters in which he has no concern, and of which he can have no cognizance except from the dictation of parties, who, if they have real causes of complaint, are not in any way precluded from themselves

themselves advancing them. On these grounds I founded my opinion that Mr. Foster's interference ought to be altogether rejected; had his motives been honest; had his information depended on his own personal knowledge, or been forced upon him from his position, instead of having been, as was evidently the case, sedulously sought out from exceptionable quarters, and taken mainly from disappointed adversaries of those whom he accused; and had he (as was undoubtedly his duty) represented the facts with an honourable purpose to Mr. Malet, and failed to obtain from him that hearing which he conceived the circumstances to demand, I should have viewed his conduct in a light the very opposite from that in which I now do, and, instead of censure, I should have considered him justly entitled to commendation, as one who, from a conscientious sense of duty as a servant of Government, had imposed on himself a dangerous, invidious, and disagreeable task.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

I still, therefore, think that Mr. Foster should be informed as I suggested in my former Minute. I have no doubt, if there is any truth in the charges he has alleged, that they will still come before us in such a shape that we may rightly enter upon their investigation; if, on the other hand, they have their origin in disappointment, revenge, or other unworthy motives, we shall probably hear no more of them.

20 December 1845. (signed) *L. R. Reid.*

No. 518.

Further Minute by the Honourable the Governor.

The opinion of the majority should now be acted upon as the decision of the Board.

31 December 1845. (signed) *G. Arthur.*

No. 519.

Government, No. 188 of 1845.—General, No. 743.—Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to my order to Mr. Foster, my head accountant, No. 728, dated 4th instant, a copy of which was transmitted in my letter No. 182 of the same date, I have the honour to transmit a copy of a letter from Captain Aston, of the 7th; copy of one from the same officer of the 8th is also sent.

2. You will perceive by the first letter, for it appears to me that the Mohsullee Sepahee's statement in connexion with what Mr. Barr observed, is worthy of credit, that my order has been entirely disregarded; however, I shall take no steps on this in consequence of the reference already made to Government.

3. You will also see from both letters the use that is made by Mr. Foster of having a new house for natives to come and look at; Keta Wora goes to see the house, in reality to ask for payment of money; Goostadjee is invited to look at the house, in reality to be spoken to concerning business; thus also it may be inferred go the "lots of natives" alluded to by Mr. Foster, who pass through, though from the small size of the compound, and there being roads all round it, no natives knowing Mr. Foster's temper would enter his compound merely to look at what they could see equally well from the outside.

I have, &c.

Katteewar Political Agency, (signed) *A. Malet*,
Nowanuggur, 13 November 1845. Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Enclosure No. 1, to Government Letter, No. 188, dated 13 November 1845.

From Captain *H. Aston*, First Assistant Political Agent, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

With reference to your orders to Mr. Foster respecting visiting and receiving visits from natives which was delivered to him yesterday, I have the honour to report as follows:—

2. Mr. Barr mentioned to me this morning, that in his ride or walk before breakfast, he noticed some natives at Mr. Foster's house; their horses were about the compound, and the respectability of their appearance indicated that they could not be connected with any works he was carrying on.

3. Goolabraee, my karkoon, on his arrival, observed spontaneously that the parties were assembled this morning at Mr. Foster's house before breakfast. There were Nooroodeen himself and Imam Bukhs, the foujdar, and Israeel the Jew, and Kheta Wora was in the compound. This had been mentioned to him by a mohsullee sepahee, who had gone to Mr. Foster's, and who met Kheta Wora in the compound; and Kheta Wora himself came to Goolabraee's house at nine o'clock this morning, and said that he had been to Mr. Foster's this morning, but that it was about Wukut Sha's money; that is, Goolabraee remarked in explanation, the 5,000 rupees borrowed from Wukutsha, not the other 2,000 rupees borrowed from the other sahookar; and Kheta Wora said that Mr. Foster had been angry with him for coming.

4. Upon this, I wrote the following to Mr. Foster: "With reference to Mr. Malet's order sent to you yesterday, some respectable natives were observed at your house this morning. Please to let me know who they were, and the object of their visit;" and Mr. Foster replied as follows: "Except my servants and workmen, and a shroff who called to see me on my private business, I know of no natives who came to my house this morning.

"Lots of natives pass through my compound merely to see my house, as it is a new building, and I have no wish to keep them out, though it is seldom I ever find it necessary to talk to them."

5. I now sent for the mohsullee sepahee above alluded to, and inquired regarding his movements of this morning. He said he had been early, about seven o'clock, to make his salam to Mr. Foster, for he had formerly been employed in the office under him; and when he came up to the house, he heard persons talking within, whom he recognised by their voices to be Nooroodeen, Imam Bukhs, and Israeel, besides Mr. Foster; so he stood still while they continued to converse; and he heard their names severally repeated by these persons in speaking one to another. In particular, he distinctly heard Imam Bukhs request or intimate to Nooroodeen that he must take Mr. Foster's small pair of bullocks; and that as to their voices he could not possibly be mistaken, as he has been much about our office and kucherees, and has had ample opportunity of hearing them; nor could he be mistaken as to Imam Bukhs' turban, as he is in the habit of seeing him every day. Mr. Foster, he said, came out of the door while he was standing near, and demanded what he wanted, and he replied that he had come to make his salam. He replied, that he was not to come there, but to go the office. At this time, while he was going away, Kheta Wora arrived, and Mr. Foster asked him also what he wanted. He said he had come to see the house. Mr. Foster told him not to come; but Mr. Foster and Kheta Wora remained talking together outside the house for some minutes, while the mohsullee sepahee remained near a neighbouring well, until Kheta Wora joined him on his return, and they walked back together to the town, for Kheta Wora had no horse with him. The name of this mohsullee sepahee is Gugjee.

6. It is possible that the natives seen by Mr. Barr may have passed through the compound unknown to Mr. Foster. It is possible that the horses seen in the open space before Mr. Foster's compound may have belonged to persons who had no interview with him. It is possible that this mohsullee sepahee reported what he thought might bring him into notice without adhering to the truth. But this is for your consideration. I have deemed it my duty to bring the foregoing circumstances to your notice.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Aston*,
First Assistant Political Agent.

Rajcote, 7 November 1845.

(True copy,)
(signed) A. Malet, Political Agent.

Enclosure No. 2, to Government Letter, No. 188, dated 13 November 1845.

From Captain *H. Aston*, First Assistant Political Agent, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent, Katteewar.

Sir,

I should have mentioned, in continuation of my letter of yesterday, but for want of time, that Mr. Foster had been seen a little more than a month ago by Goostadjee, at his house, with some bhoomeeas sitting about him, and he writing at his desk; when he heard expressions used, such as that they had complained to Malet Saheb and Aston Saheb, but without effect; Goostadjee had gone to make his salam, and Mr. Foster on seeing him, said that he was busy and sent him away.

2. Mr.

2. Mr. Foster told Goostadjee to come to look at his house during the Deewalee holidays*; he went, and after looking about the house, Mr. Foster accused him of having given intelligence of his having sent a packet or packets to Bombay. He denied it, and said that there could be no ground or reason for his accusing him in particular, as the matter was publicly spoken of in the bazaar, and by the native officers of the regiments; Mr. Foster repeated that he was sure that he had told; and in particular, that he had mentioned it to Aston Saheb; this he denied. Mr. Foster repeated the accusation once afterwards in the office, and since then, for some trifling cause he threatened to have him turned out of the office. Mr. Foster also told him, that in consequence of his having so given information, he had written to the postmaster, or rather that he had written the draft of a letter for the post-office clerk, to address in complaint. This will of course recall to you the letter received some time since from the postmaster, in which he states that the post-office clerk had written a letter complaining to him of Goostadjee's having given intelligence relating to post-office letters. Goostadjee, as you are aware, wrote denying this, giving reasons why the post-office clerk sent in this accusation, and asking for an investigation.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

* 28, 29, 30, and 31 October.

3. The above information is from the statement of Goostadjee himself, who you know is a Parsee of very respectable connexions, of good character, living with his relations, one of the Parsee shopkeepers in the bazaar.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Aston*,
First Assistant Political Agent.

Rajkote, 8 November 1845.

(True copy.)

(signed) A. Malet, Political Agent.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and the Honourable Mr. *Crawford*.

No. 250.

MR. FOSTER'S disregard of his superior's orders is very culpable.

I have lately circulated a Minute in which I have recorded my opinion that it is impossible to permit Mr. Foster to remain in his present situation.

I circulate this that these papers may be considered in connexion with the former proceedings.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
T. M'Mahon.
J. H. Crawford.

13 December 1845.

No. 236 of 1845.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary, to *Arthur Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

No. 521.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letters, dated the 3d November last, No. 179 and 180, reporting upon two representations, dated the 1st and 4th of the preceding month, from Mr. Henry Foster, head accountant to the Katteewar Political Agency, the former containing complaints against yourself, and the latter advancing charges of bribery and corruption against members of your native establishment.

2. The complaints against yourself may be summed up as follows:

1st. That in February 1844, you addressed Mr. Foster a letter, censuring him for a fault he had not committed, and threatening him with dismissal on a repetition.

2d. That you sent this letter to Mr. Foster unsealed.

3d. That since January 1843, you have made references on points connected with the department of accounts to the native agent, instead of to Mr. Foster, as had heretofore been customary.

4th. That you have latterly ordered applications for leave, &c., from native members of your establishment, to be made through your native agent, instead of through Mr. Foster as previously.

5th. That you have latterly entrusted that portion of Mr. Foster's duty regarding the sale, dead stock, &c., to the native agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

6th. That you have deprived Mr. Foster of the office of superintendent of Mohsullee, in consequence of his having, in a moment of great excitement, written an improper letter to you.

7th. That you have, without authority from Government, created the new appointment of a native superintendent of Mohsullee on a salary of 20 rupees per mensem, for the purpose of conferring it upon Bhugwan Lall, your native agent.

8th. That on the death of a carkoon in the Mohsullee department you conferred the vacant situation on the brother of Goolabraee, a member of your establishment, to the prejudice of the deceased's relations.

9th. That you have curtailed Mr. Foster's authority and privileges in the Mohsullee department, and transferred the portion of which he was deprived to Bhugwan Lall.

10th. That you addressed Mr. Foster an uncourteous and harsh letter, in consequence of his having represented to you that he felt aggrieved at receiving orders from you through the native agent.

11th. That you interrogated Mr. Foster in regard to the nature of a conversation which he had with a person named Mankhaun.

12th. That you allowed Bhugwan Lall, while under suspension, to have free access to the Political Agent's office, and thereby prevented persons from bringing other charges against him, which could have been substantiated before an impartial tribunal.

13th. That parties willing and able to substantiate charges of bribery and corruption against Bhugwan Lall are unable to obtain a hearing from you.

14th. That certain documents obtained from Joonaghur, containing evidence confirmatory of the charges against Bhugwan Lall, were not brought on record, nor the circumstance reported to Government.

3. The Honourable the Governor in Council having taken your explanations on these complaints into consideration, desires me to communicate to you the following observations:—

4. The Governor in Council regrets that you did not, on discovering the mistaken impression under which you had written to Mr. Foster the letter alluded to in the first instance of his complaint, at once acknowledge that he was not, as you had been led to suppose, chargeable with negligence on the occasions alluded to, and with ignorance of his duties. On the other hand, however, all ground of dissatisfaction ought to have been removed from Mr. Foster's mind by the expression of your approbation with his conduct on your return to Rajkote from the districts.

5. Government can see no sufficient reason for Mr. Foster's urging as a grievance the circumstance forming the second instance of his complaint.

6. The third instance of Mr. Foster's complaint would, in the opinion of Government, have been better answered by your referring to the occasion in which you had experienced the inconvenience to which you allude. The Governor in Council, however, considers your explanation on this head satisfactory, and that Mr. Foster's complaint is frivolous, as are also the fourth and fifth instances, even if well founded, since the head of an office must exercise his own discretion in cases of the nature alluded to.

7. Your explanation on the 6th instance of Mr. Foster's complaint is satisfactory, and the tone of his letter alluded to is, in the opinion of Government, both exceedingly improper and disrespectful.

8. With reference to the 7th instance of complaint, although your explanation is quite satisfactory, the Governor in Council regrets that at the period alluded to, you made an addition from the Mohsullee Fund to Bhugwan Lall's salary without previous reference to Government. It is clear, however, that Mr. Foster had no concern with this arrangement, and his having therefore made this a source of complaint against his superior officer is highly improper.

9. The 8th complaint is a very objectionable and underhand charge, since you had a right to confer the petty appointment alluded to upon any individual you

you considered best fitted for it. In the manner, moreover, in which Mr. Foster has advanced this charge, he has been virtually untruthful, by omitting to notice essential particulars bearing against his own statements. It at the same time shows the acrimony with which he has been searching for accusations against you, and that he has constituted himself a judge and critic of the acts of his official superior in a very unauthorised and unusual manner.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

10. The 9th instance of complaint is not specially answered in your reply, but your general explanation is considered just. The accusation itself is too vague and undefined to call for further inquiry.

11. With reference to the 10th complaint, I am desired to observe that the score under the word "feeling" in your letter to Mr. Foster, which you state you did not make, should certainly not have been added by any one else, or having been so, this should have been explained. This addition gives to that letter a character which was not designed, and ought not to have been attributed. The Governor in Council considers Mr. Foster's reply to your letter to have been highly disrespectful.

12. Your explanation on the 11th complaint is quite satisfactory, and Mr. Foster's disrespect in advancing such a charge against the head of his department is a further exemplification of the impropriety of his conduct.

13. With reference to the 12th complaint, I am desired to refer you to Mr. Secretary Townsend's letter, dated the 3d July last, informing you "that whilst Bhugwan Lall was under suspension he ought not to have been permitted to frequent the Political Agent's office, or to have been in any way employed by your assistant, Captain Aston." The Governor in Council still retains this opinion, but he considers that the concluding clause of Mr. Foster's complaint under this head contains a most improper and unjustifiable insinuation against your proceedings.

14. The insinuations in the 13th complaint are founded on mere vague rumours and reports, and are highly reprehensible. In making this complaint Mr. Foster, instead of dealing in generalities, should have stated the particular persons to whom he alludes, and on what occasions you had, as he alleges, refused to pay attention to their representations.

15. The Governor in Council regrets that you did not at the time record the papers alluded to in the 11th instance of Mr. Foster's complaint, and which you certainly ought to have done. Your explanation, however, is satisfactory, and shows the recklessness with which Mr. Foster has founded complaints on matters of which he is quite ignorant, and the little care he has taken to assure himself of the truth of his assumptions.

16. With his letter of the 4th October last, Mr. Foster has submitted a statement of five fresh charges against your native agent, Bhugwan Lall, Goolabraee, a carkoon of your establishment, and a karbaree named Ametjee Amerchund, of their having received bribes on the occasions therein mentioned to a very considerable amount.

17. From the tenor of Mr. Foster's statement, and your explanations thereon, it is obvious to Government that he has imbibed a rancorous feeling against yourself, and certain members of your establishment, in consequence of some fancied slights; with the view therefore of indulging this feeling, Mr. Foster wishes to constitute himself a redresser of grievances, and a referee for the complaints of all unsuccessful parties whose affairs may have come under the control of the Agency.

18. The Governor in Council is aware that in few countries more petty disputes exist which require for their settlement the interference of the British authorities than in Katteewar. The numerous chiefs of that province have, it is well known, constant causes of disagreement, either within their own estates and families, or with their neighbours on every side. The decision of these cases must give to the native agent occasional opportunities of benefiting himself, and but few cases occur in which the unsuccessful party does not declare (whether truly or falsely) that his ill success is owing to the circumstance of the native agent having been corrupted by his adversary. Any

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

person, therefore, becoming a ready listener to such complaints, could, no doubt, find ample employment, especially if he were notoriously at variance with the native agent, and in such a position that he could hold out to the parties resorting to him any prospect of being able, through his means, to procure a hearing of their own versions of their case before another tribunal.

19. The Governor in Council is of opinion that Government should at once reject all information coming from such a source. Parties aggrieved by any act on the part of the Political Agent, or desirous of accusing his subordinates of malpractices, are at perfect liberty to prefer their complaints either to the Political Agent or to Government direct. It would clearly be the height of injustice on the information of a third party, wholly unconnected with the affairs which he takes upon himself to represent, and who is complainant from avowed motives of hostility, to attend to rumours and fabricated stories, and to suspend from their situations the men whom it is the expressed object of the informant to ruin, or, as requested by Mr. Foster in the present case, to take the cognizance of charges against them, out of the hands of the Political Agent, and to place the investigation in those of a separate officer or of a commissioner.

20. Mr. Foster's statements are rendered the more valueless from their abounding in the expressions, "it is said," and, "it is believed," and in assertions that such and such facts "will be found" if certain papers are examined, or certain persons questioned. He can therefore have no personal knowledge of the facts he alleges, though he has apparently joined a party in opposition to the native functionaries whom he accuses, and has been tutored by that party to embody in a connected detail the numerous rumours which abound in Katteewar.

21. The "Statement of Cases" forwarded by Mr. Foster has to Government the appearance of being the translation of a native document, or of having been committed to writing from the narration of a native. The circumstances mentioned are precisely such as would be assigned by unsuccessful suitors as the causes of their ill success, or as would occur to others who were mere spectators of events passing in these petty native states, where a party is one day in power and on the following in disgrace, and where amongst those unacquainted with the purity of British justice, no one is supposed to gain his ends without the exercise of those acts of corruption and intrigue which unfortunately seem especially to thrive in Katteewar.

22. The Governor in Council considers that it would have been more satisfactory if you had been more explicit in your remarks on the charges preferred by Mr. Foster against the native portion of your establishment above alluded to, and given the fullest explanation upon each charge, noticing those facts which are admitted, and explaining your motives in each stage of your proceedings. Under all circumstances, however, I am desired to inform you that after giving the subject full consideration, the Honourable the Governor in Council is not of opinion with reference to the information at present before Government, that any judicial inquiry is called for in regard to these charges.

23. In consequence of the insubordinate conduct of Mr. Foster, as proved from the papers now before Government, and the offensive and unfounded imputations which he has cast upon your character as his superior, Government can no longer permit him to remain on your establishment. The Honourable the Governor in Council accordingly directs that Mr. Foster be removed from his situation, and his name be expunged from the list of your office establishment on receipt of this letter.

24. A copy of my letter of this date to Mr. Foster is enclosed for your information; if you will please to inform him of the decision of Government removing him from his situations in your office.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 15 January 1846.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 237 of 1846.

No. 522.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary, to Mr. *Henry Foster*, Rajkote, Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letters, dated the 1st and 4th October and the 7th and 10th November last, the two former to the address of Mr. Erskine, private secretary to the Honourable the Governor, and the two latter to the address of his Honour, complaining against your superior, Mr. Malet, the Political Agent in Katteewar, in the instances therein detailed; and also preferring several charges of bribery and corruption against members of the native establishment of that Agency.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you, that the Governor in Council declines to receive from you any representations on matters in which you are not personally concerned, and that any individuals who consider themselves aggrieved by the acts of Mr. Malet, or by any members of his native establishment, and are desirous of bringing forward charges against them, will have every proper attention paid to their representations, on their appealing for redress either to the Political Agent or to Government direct.

3. The Governor in Council, after the fullest inquiry into your charges against Mr. Malet of harsh and uncourteous treatment towards yourself, and your animadversions on his official conduct, is satisfied that your complaints are both unfounded and vexatious, while your conduct towards that gentleman, as your official superior, has been disrespectful and insubordinate.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle, 15 January 1846.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*, Chief Secretary.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 4 February 1846.

No. 919.

Government, No. 1 of 1846.—General, No. 1.—Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq. Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

WITH reference to the conclusions of my two letters, Nos. 179 and 180, of the 3d November, I have the honour to inform you that on my return to Rajkote I have removed from any superintendence by Mr. Foster, the English clerks who are not connected with his duties; he retains the account and sequestration departments; and the head clerk, the judicial clerk, and the English Mohsullee writer, with the English records, have been removed into a room in the Agency bungalow.

I have, &c.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency, Rajkote, 2 January 1846.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and the Honourable Mr. *Reid*, without date.

No. 920.

THIS letter needs no reply, the case to which it refers having been disposed of.

(signed) *George Arthur.*
T. M'Mahon.
L. R. Reid.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 11 February 1846.

Government, No. 24 of 1846.—General, No. 47.

No. 1095.

Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to my letter, No. 1, of the 2d instant, and the 6th para. of my letter, No. 180, of the 3d November last, I have the honour to forward copies of documents as per margin, relative to money borrowed by Mr. Foster, my head accountant, in two sums, one of 5,000 rupees, from Wukutchund Kooshalchund, who has extensive dealings with the tributaries in this province, and another of 2,000 from a shroff in the camp bazar, and Sha Goolabchund Ameechund, a banker of Rajkote.

1. Mr. Foster's receipt for 2,000 rupees.
2. Political Agent's note to Mr. Foster, requesting to know his intentions respecting it.
3. Mr. Foster's reply.

2. I am not acquainted with the terms on which the money has been borrowed from Wukutchund, so that I cannot say how the liquidation of his engagements to that firm would affect those on account of the 2,000 rupees to Nuthoo Deookursun and Sha Goolabchund Ameechund, but you will perceive that Mr. Foster's whole salary from September to the end of December, five months, could only amount, including the mohsullee and sequestration allowances, to 1,250 rupees, and I know that he has, or rather had no private means, so that considering his expensive habits, if he had no other claim on him, he could not from his pay alone have expected to be able to meet his engagements.

3. It needs not to detain Government with any remarks on this state of Mr. Foster's pecuniary affairs; suffice it to state that my former suspicions are confirmed, and that he cannot, apart from reasons formerly adduced, be considered a fit man to hold an appointment in this province. May I solicit, therefore, the orders of Government, as formerly requested, for his removal.

I have, &c.

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency, Rajkote,
17 January 1846.

No. 1.

Enclosed in a Letter to Government, dated 17 January 1846, No. 24.

Borrowed and received from Sha Goolabchund and Tukkur Dewkarsun Company's rupees two thousand (2,000) and with interest thereon at 1 ¼ per cent., I agree to repay on or before the 5th January 1846.

In the event of failure of this bond, all my estate and property, including my three bungaloes and life insurance policy, which I have mortgaged to Wukutchund Kooshalchund in June 1845 for 5,000 Company's rupees, will be mortgaged to the said Sha Goolabchund Ameechund, and Tukkur Nuthoo Dewkursun, after the demand possessed on me by the firm of Wutkutchund Kooshalchund shall have been fully liquidated. In the mean while I have not to mortgage my estate to any other sahookar.

(signed) *H. Foster.*

Rajkote, 3 September 1845.

Should the above not be liquidated on the date specified (5 January 1846), I hereby agree to repay the sum, 2,000 rupees, to Sha Goolabchund Ameechund, Tukkur Nuthoo Dewkursun.

(signed) *Foster Stalker*,
Lieut.-col. Commanding, Rajkote.

(True copies.)

(signed) A. Malet, Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 2.

Enclosed in a Letter to Government, dated 17th January 1846, No. 24.

Mr. Foster,

The Line Adjutant has sent me the original paper of which this is a copy, with a request that I would ask what are your intentions relative to it; if you will therefore state them in writing, I shall be able to reply to him, and take any other notice of the transaction I may deem fit.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

Rajkote, 17 January 1846.

(True copy.)
(signed) A. Malet, Political Agent.

No. 3.

Enclosed in a Letter to Government, dated 17 January 1846, No. 24.

Sir, 17 January 1846.

My intentions are to pay the amount on or before 1st May next, with interest. I have met with a disappointment which I did not anticipate, and therefore, however, willing I am unable to liquidate the demand at present.

Yours, &c.
(signed) *H. Foster.*

Directed to A. Malet, Esq.

(True copy.)
(signed) A. Malet, Political Agent.

Nuthoo Deookurson states that Mr. Foster has not paid him a pice of either principal or interest, and that he has on the contrary abused and threatened to beat him for asking for payment.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

17 January 1846.

Minute by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Reid*, without date. No. 1096.

These pecuniary transactions, so far above Mr. Foster's legitimate means of meeting, prove that he is a very unfit person to remain in public employ in Katteewar, but as he has already been removed from office, I am not aware that any further measures are now called for.

(signed) *George Arthur.*
L. R. Reid.

No. 524 of 1846.—Political Department.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar. No. 1097.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 17th ultimo, No. 24, and to refer you to my communication, dated the 15th idem, No. 236, conveying the authority of Government for the removal of Mr. Foster from his situation on your establishment.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 6 February 1846.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 18 February 1846. No. 1291.

From Mr. *Henry Foster* to His Excellency the Honourable Sir *George Arthur*, Bart., K.C.H., Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

Honourable Sir,

From the accompanying copy of a letter from Mr. Malet, the Political Agent in Katteewar, dated 21st instant, I feel much concerned to find that your Excellency should have deemed proper to act with such severity towards me,

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

as to remove me from my appointment in Katteewar, after a period of hard-earned, and I believe, faithful service.

2. After the decision which has been thus passed upon me by Government, I cannot help but view my removal as just, however much I feel the severity of it, but I humbly and most earnestly entreat, not in justification of my conduct, but in extenuation of my crime, that your Excellency will kindly view my former services with indulgence, and as an act of clemency graciously restore me to public employment, if not in this Agency, at least in any other department under the Government.

3. Should it please your Excellency to accede to my prayer, I beg very solemnly to assure your Excellency, that as this has been my first, so will it be my last offence, and that my future conduct will amply atone for the past.

I beg, &c.

Rajkote, 29 January 1846. (signed) *Henry Foster.*

No. 56 of 1846.—Service.

Mr. Foster,

With reference to Mr. Chief Secretary Willoughby's letter to your address, No. 237, January 15th, I have to inform you that you are, by the orders of Government conveyed to me, removed from my establishment from this date. You will receive your pay to this day inclusive, on passing a receipt for the same.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency, Rajkote,
21 January 1846.

No. 1292. Minute by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and the Honourable Mr. *Reid.*

Mr. Foster may be informed that he has not been declared ineligible for future employment in the public service, but that it is not in the power of Government to appoint him to any particular situation.

(signed) *George Arthur.*
T. M'Mahon.
L. R. Reid.

10 February 1846.

No. 632 of 1846.—Political Department.

No. 1293. From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Mr. *Henry Foster*, late Head Accountant, Katteewar Political Agency, Rajcote.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 29th ultimo, expressing contrition for your conduct with reference to the complaints preferred by you against Mr. Malet, the Political Agent in Katteewar, and soliciting that Government will, in consideration of your past services, restore you to public employment, if not in the Rajcote Agency, in any other department.

2. In reply I am desired to inform you that you have not been declared ineligible for future employment in the public service, but that it is not in the power of Government to appoint you to any particular situation.

I am, &c.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 13 February 1846.

(True extract.)
(signed) R. K. Pringle, Chief Secretary.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 6 October 1847.

No. 7545.

Government, No. 119 of 1847.—General No. 511.—Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Kattywar, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to the 2d para. of my letter of the 18th ultimo, I have the honour to forward copies of my first assistant's reports regarding the accusation against his karkoon, Goolabraee Amba Sunker, of having received a bribe of 60 rupees from the grassias of the village of Lutoora, and of my reply requiring further information as to the part taken in the transaction by the several vukeels and others concerned in it, and also of Mr. Barr's final report on the subject. Translations of such of the depositions as appear necessary fully to acquaint Government with the merits of the case, are likewise transmitted.

2. There cannot, I think, be the slightest doubt that Goolabraee's name was taken falsely in this case by the vukeel or vukeels concerned, in order to impose on the grassias and plunder them of the money; and if satisfactory evidence had been forthcoming to prove the appropriation of the whole of the money, I intended to have recommended the case for trial before the Political Agent's Court. As it is, however, were this course pursued, the Vukeel Doorgadass could alone be convicted, and he is in all probability the least guilty party; and was moreover honest enough, when questioned on the subject, to tell the truth, as far at least as he himself was concerned. I am therefore of opinion that it will be a sufficient punishment in his case to dismiss him from practising as a vukeel in this agency, and to debar him from being received in any other capacity on the part of any of the chiefs or grassias in Kattywar; and I have in the meantime suspended him from appearing in my own kutcherry or that of any of my assistants, pending the receipt of the decision of Government on the subject.

3. Besides the evidence of Doorgadass against the other vukeel, Kheta Wora, there is that of the Grassia Hurrybhaee, that he acquainted him with what had taken place a short time afterwards; and Kheta Wora has been so much mixed up with one or two of the accusations against Goolabraee, that there is every probability that he would have brought this forward also, had he not known that Goolabraee was entirely innocent, which he could only have done from having himself had a share in appropriating the money. His accounts, however, for the year in which the transaction took place, were at once produced when he was asked for them; and as there is nothing in them to add in the slightest degree to the suspicion against him, and the other evidence is, I consider, insufficient for his conviction, he is of course entitled to the full benefit of the doubt in his favour.

4. With reference to the wish of Government, that the business of this agency should be conducted as much without the intervention of vukeels as possible, and to the great desirableness of decreasing the number of vukeels now employed in the province, and obtaining, when any more may be necessary, the services of the most respectable people who can be selected for the duty, I would take this opportunity of recommending that no new vukeel should be permitted, after this date, to practice in this agency without a written sunnud from the Political Agent; and if this is approved of, I should feel obliged by your furnishing me with a copy of the sunnud usually issued to vukeels, authorising them to practise in our own Government Courts.

I have, &c.

Kattywar Political Agency,
Rajkote, 8 September 1847.

(signed) *W. Lang*,
Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Enclosure No. 1, to Government Letter No. 119, dated 8 September 1847.

From Lieutenant *J. T. Barr*, Acting First Assistant Political Agent in Charge, S. S., to Captain *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Kattywar, Joonaghur.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward for your information several Guzerattee papers and depositions, referring to a charge of bribery preferred by a person of the name of Appah, against my head karkoon, Goolabraee.

2. You are aware that the informer in the present instance has long been notorious for complaints of a similar nature, which he has from time to time made against different members of the native establishment attached to this agency.

3. Although he failed in his former attempts to prove charges of bribery and corruption, which it was evident he had brought forward through motives of enmity and ill-will against the persons whom he wished to criminate, still I considered it my duty not to deny him any countenance or assistance he might require for substantiating a fresh charge; at the same time, however, binding him down to pay a penalty of 1,000 rupees, should it appear, after due investigation, that his complaint was made without good grounds, or that it originated in a conspiracy to ruin the character of Goolabraee.

4. The particulars of the case are briefly these. The day after the last petition, under the fictitious signature of Dewchund Manchund, was published in the kutcherry, with your shera directing the petitioner either to reveal his name, or to apply to any of your assistants that might be at Rajkote, Appah came to me, and stated that he was prompted so to do by having read your shera, though he disclaimed all knowledge of the petition on which it was endorsed. He then went on to inform me that accidentally he had seen an entry in the books of a camp shroff, named Nuthoo, showing that some five or six months ago, whilst a boundary dispute was pending before Captain Aston, the Lutoora grassias being parties concerned, had borrowed 60 rupees for the purpose of paying them as a bribe to Goolabraee, the first assistant's head karkoon, but that it would be necessary to seize the chopra at once to prevent its being tampered with. I immediately wrote an official letter to the officer commanding the station, requesting that all the books of the above-named shroff might if possible be procured, and sent to me without the previous knowledge of any one.

This was at once acceded to by the camp authorities, and on investigation an entry of 60 rupees, with two rupees as interest, as having been borrowed by the Lutoora grassias for payment to Goolabraee was found both in the credit and debit accounts of the chopra; and some time afterwards the shroff produced the bond for this amount passed by the grassias, but which had been cancelled on repayment.

5. The pointed mention of Goolabraee's name in all these entries, as well as in the bond, when the transaction was avowedly a secret one, naturally increased the suspicions which had previously existed in my mind, from Appah's having stated that he gained his information by an accidental investigation of chopras, which are, I believe, customarily kept as private, by all shroffs, as are the books of our own banking houses.

6. I therefore at once despatched a police horseman to bring the Lutoora grassias straight to my house, without permitting them to communicate with any one.

7. Their depositions lead me to believe that my original suspicions of a combination against Goolabraee were correct.

8. Keta Wora, being vukeel to the party by whom the bribe is said to have been paid, and being, as it is deposed, privy to the payment of it, is in my opinion sufficient guarantee that Goolabraee was not the recipient; for it is on record that the former has for a series of years been most pertinacious in his attempts to prove the latter corrupt.

9. There is no proof whatever that the money got further than to the hands of Doorgadass, the other agent of the grassias on this occasion; but, on the contrary, they distinctly state that they were not allowed to be present when it was delivered.

10. Moreover, the grassias declare that, so far from having benefited by payment of the bribe, they have been severe sufferers by the settlement of the boundary; and it is known, at all events, that they have been petitioning against it ever since it was made.

11. From the whole of the preceding facts my impression is, that the agents took the money from their employers, under the pretence of its being necessary to advance their business in Captain Aston's kutcherry; but with the purpose of appropriating it to themselves, and of afterwards making use of the entry as occasion might serve to criminate Goolabraee; that Goolabraee's absence on leave at Joonaghur was considered a favourable opportunity, and that then Appah was brought forward as the only ostensible prosecutor, although they were the main instigators of the plot.

12. I have called upon the vukeels for an explanation of the circumstances; and shall feel obliged if you will favour me with your opinion on the subject of this report, and also inform me what steps you will deem it advisable to take should they fail to prove that Goolabraee was the actual recipient of the bribe.

I have, &c.

Rajkote, 9 June 1847.

(signed) *J. T. Barr*,
Acting 1st Assist. Pol. Agent in Charge, S. S.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

From Lieutenant *J. T. Barr*, Acting 1st Assistant Political Agent in Charge, S. S. to Captain *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Kattywar, Joonaghur.

Sir,

With reference to my letter of the 9th instant, and in continuation of the proceedings which accompanied it, I have the honour to forward the deposition of Doorgadass, the vukeel of Wudwan.

2. This deposition I beg to state has been taken in English by me at the particular request of Doorgadass, whom I could not otherwise have prevailed upon to speak freely, as he was very averse to giving his testimony in presence of the karkoons of his own caste.

3. He was brought from Wusawur straight to my bungalow yesterday evening, and showed evident alarm when the purpose for which he had been so suddenly called was made known to him.

I have, &c.

Rajkote,
16 June 1847.

(signed) *J. T. Barr*,
Acting 1st Ass^{t} Pol^{l} Agent in Charge, S. S.

Doorgadass, son of Diaram; caste, Hindoo; tribe, Nagur Brahmin; by profession a Vukeel; age, about 38 years; inhabitant of Wusawur; in presence of Lieutenant J. T. Barr, Acting 1st Assistant Political Agent, deposes as follows:

About six months ago a boundary dispute between the grassias of Lutoora and Doodere was pending before Captain Aston, the first assistant. Lutoora is a bhyat of Wudwan, and therefore this dispute was carried on through my agency. Keta Worah, however, is the particular vukeel of the Lutoora grassias; he came to me at my house in the town of Rajkote, and told me he would cause 30 rupees to be given to me. To effect this, he said it would be necessary for him to represent to the kamdar of the grassias, "Hurreebhaee," who is also a relation of theirs, that the business in which they were engaged could not successfully be carried on without a bribe of 60 rupees to Goolabraee. Keta Worah instructed me to say that the above amount had actually been paid to Goolabraee, should Hurreebhaee, or the political authorities, ever make any inquiries on the subject. Keta Worah got the 60 rupees from the grassias on pretence of a bribe being necessary, but he himself, I believe, kept 30 rupees; he paid the remaining 30 rupees to me at his brother, Jusah Worah's house, in the town of Rajkote. I was wrong in taking this money; but I hope Government will pardon me, as I never intended to implicate Goolabraee.

On being cross-questioned: I spoke to the Lutoora grassias regarding this money on one occasion; they asked me whether Keta Worah had given me 60 rupees for Goolabraee, and I replied that I knew nothing of the matter, and told them to apply to their own vukeel, namely, Keta Worah. I did not tell them then, or at any other time, that I had received the 30 rupees from Keta Worah. I do not know where the grassias got the money from. I never spoke to Appah on this subject.

(signed) *Doorgadass Dyaram.*

No. 340 of 1847.—Service.

From the Political Agent in Kattywar to *J. T. Barr*, Esquire, Acting 1st Assistant Political Agent in Charge, S. S., Rajkote.

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of your letters of the 9th and 16th instant, I have the honour to inform you that I consider the opinion you have formed on the subject of the money taken from the Lutoora grassias to be perfectly correct; and as the case is such a glaring one, I think it probable that Government will require that the vukeels concerned should be tried before the Political Agent's Court, provided there be sufficient evidence forthcoming clearly to prove the appropriation by them of the money. I beg to enclose Keta Worah's original deposition, in which he denies all knowledge of the business; and I therefore send him to you herewith, in order that you may confront him with the other vukeel, Doorgadass, and the agents of the grassias who obtained the money. With regard to the informer Appah, some further inquiry appears necessary to ascertain how he came by the knowledge of the entry in the sowcar's books, and you may perhaps be able to obtain this by confronting him with the other parties concerned. In the meantime, I beg to enclose an original letter from this individual, for any consideration you may deem it to merit.

I have, &c.

Kattywar Political Agency, Camp Joonaghur,
26 June 1847.

(signed) *W. Lang*,
Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

To Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Kattywar.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward the enclosed depositions, referring to a sum of 60 rupees borrowed by the Lutoora grassias (as they supposed) for payment to your 1st assistant's head karkoon, Goolabraee.

These depositions have been taken agreeably to your instructions in reply to my letter, dated 9th of June last, in which I reported particulars of the investigation of a complaint of bribery preferred by the informer Appah against Goolabraee.

From the proceedings connected with the above case, it was evident that the Lutoora grassias had borrowed 60 rupees, supposing the amount to be necessary to advance their interests in a matter then pending before Captain Aston, but there was nothing to show that the money had ever got further than to the hands of their vukeels, Doorgadass and Ketah Worah, by whose advice it appeared to have been borrowed; and I stated to you my suspicion that both vukeels had joined in deceiving the grassias for the purpose of self-aggrandisement, and at the same time to gratify their feeling of enmity towards Goolabraee.

The suspicion still remains unshaken in my mind, but I fear there is not sufficient proof to show that Ketah Worah actually received any part of the 60 rupees, or caused them to be borrowed in the manner deposed to by Doorgadass; though Hurreebhaee states that Ketah Worah was privy to the transaction some time after it took place.

The testimony against Doorgadass appears to me to be convincing, were his own confession not sufficient to exhibit his character in the worst possible light.

I have, &c.

Rajkote,
4 September 1847.

(signed) *J. T. Barr*,
Act^{g} 1st Ass^{t} Pol^{l} Agent.

(True copies)

(signed) W. Lang,
Political Agent.

Enclosure No. 2, to Government Letter No. 119, dated 8 September 1847.

DEPOSITION of *Nuthoo Deokurn*, aged about 39 years; caste, Loana; religion, Hindoo; occupation, Shroff; inhabitant of Rajkote; keeps a shop in the Regimental Bazaar; in presence of Lieutenant J. T. Barr, Assistant Political Agent in Kattywar, on the 24th May 1847; 1st Jait Shood, 10th Monday, St. 1903, at Rajkote, in answer to questions.

ON the 102d folio of my cash-book, an entry is made of 60 rupees paid to Rana Barajee, of Lutoora. It is written that this sum is to be given to Mehta Goolabraee. A note for it was given to me on a piece of paper. After this, that grassia gave me a hoondee for this money, and I consequently cancelled the note; but I will seek for it, and if I find it in my house I will produce it. In my book it is written as to be given to Goolabraee. This is my system of business: to ask any one who comes for money the purpose for which he requires it; and if the borrower ask me what business I have to ask this question, I do not press it; but if he point out any particular purpose for which he requires it, then I make a practice of taking a note of it; and I wrote this as I heard it from Sharejas Hurreebhaee and Kusheeajee. I have shown that book to no one. Goolabraee was in Rajkote at that time, but I do not know whether he gave him that money or not. Hurreebhaee and Kusheeajee took the money away from my shop. I never trouble myself as to whether the receiver of the money may have stated falsely or not, as to the party for whom it is intended. Hurreebhaee told me thus: "We have got to give money to Goolabraee about a boundary affair, so give it quickly, but do not tell any one about it." He also said, "I am a servant; and should Barajee at any time ask me to whom I have given these rupees, then I may be able to answer, 'Look in Nuthoo's book; the name of the party to whom it was given is written in it.' Therefore write it, that I may not be answerable." Thus saying, he made me write in this manner, and he gave me a hoondee for 62 sicca rupees upon a sowcar of
28 November. Wudwan, dated Magshur Shood 11th; I gave this to Sunganee Premchund Bhimjee, and he gave me 62 Company's rupees for it. It is not the custom to write in the hoondee the name of the party to whom the borrower intends to give the money.

(signed) *Thukur Nuthoo Deokum.*

(signed) *J. T. Barr*,
Acting Assistant Political Agent.

LETTER from *Rana Barajee, Kusheeajee Amabhaee*, and *Monshungjee*, Grassias of the village of *Lutoora*, to *Thukur Nuthoo Deokum*, dated 11th Kartik Shood 1903. (31 Oct. 1847).

RANA BARAJEE, and Kusheeajee, and Monshungjee, grassias of Lutoora, are indebted to you in the sum of 62 sicca rupees; this sum is to be paid in one month. We have consented to take 60 rupees Company's cash, and this sum has been received by Jharejas Hurreebhaee and Kusseeabhaee jointly. These rupees are borrowed for the purpose of being given to Mehta

Mehta Goolabraee, to fix a boundary. Two rupees are to be given for interest and profit, together 62 rupees. For this sum I have written and given you a hoondee on Wora Koourjee-Natha, of Wudwan, payable to yourself, dated 11th Magshur Shood,* payable four days' after sight. When this hoondee is due it will be paid, but should it be returned unpaid, then pay your men to come to me, and I will pay you their pay, their expenses, and the interest and profit, and all charges, from my own pocket. This letter is written and delivered by us in our sound senses and by our free will, in the Regimental Bazaar, Rajkote.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

* 28 November.

(signed) *Rana Barajee,* *Kusheeajee Amabhaee,* *Rana Monshungjee,* } Grassias of Lutoora.

Witnessed by,
Shree Jugdeea,
Thukur Purshotum Deojee, } by their own consent.

Written by order, by *Thukur Ladaramjee.*

Witnessed by,
Dewsee Bhugwan, of Limree,
Thukur Jootha Soorajee, } by order.

Deposition of *Hurreebhaee Togabaee,* aged about 35 years; caste, Rajpoot Jhareja; religion, Hindoo; occupation, Grassia; shareholder of the Talooka of Drapha, but now living in the village of Lutoora; in presence of Lieutenant J. T. Barr, Assistant Political Agent, in Kattywar, on the 7th June 1847, 1st Jet Wud 9th, Monday.

About five or six months ago, in the cold season, I got 60 rupees from Thukur Nuthoo Deokurn, and agreed to give two rupees for profit. I had come from Lutoora to Government on business, there being a dispute between Lutoora and Doodrejaabout a boundary; and I got this money to give to Goolabraee on this account, Doorgadass, the vukeel, of Wudwan, having told me that my business would succeed if I gave Goolabraee 60 rupees, and that otherwise it would fail. After this I gave Dorgadass 60 rupees; my business was then being carried on by means of Doorgadass. Ketah Worah has been my vukeel for three years, he knows of my having given the money to Doorgadass, but he does not know I got it from Nuthoo. Being questioned, I do not know whether Doorgadass gave this money to Goolabraee or not, and my business about the boundary failed after all. When I gave the money to Doorgadass, I told him I would go with him to give it to Goolabraee, but he said it was not my business, and that he himself would give it to Goolabraee. I did not consult Keta Warah in this matter. The business of the boundary was going on when I gave the money; it was afterwards closed upon the oath of a grassia of Doodrej, but I was injured by it. I was present when the entry was made in Nuthoo's book, but Doorgadass was not; I did not tell Doorgadass of my having got the money from Nuthoo. I got it of my own accord, and I had Goolabraee's name written in the book, in case any of my brethren should ask me to account for the money. After having given the money to Doorgadass, I did not ask Goolabraee whether the money had reached him or not. When Keta Wara asked me where I got the money, I told him I had got it from Nuthoo. I never gave any money besides this for any business. I did not know it was customary to give karkoons money for the business of settling boundaries, but Doorgadass told me my business would fail if I did not give it; it was on this account that I gave it. The day after I gave it to Doorgadass, he told me he had given it to Goolabraee. I then said, "If you have given it, then why has my business failed?" He answered, "I have given the rupees." He did not say whether any one was present when he gave the money to Goolabraee.

(signed) *Jhareja Hurreebhaee.*

(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Acting First Assistant Political Agent.

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13 July.

At the time I borrowed the money Keta Wora was not aware of it. Keta Wora carried on the business about the robbery of the dher, in the month of Jait 1902. I told Keta Wora about these rupees about a month and a half after the business of the Doodrej boundary was settled; he made no answer, but only said, "Very well, that is your own business." Keta Worah asked me where I had got the money from, and I told him I had got it from Nuthoo. When Doorgadass carries on my business I always go to his house, but I never saw Keta Wora there. I do not think there is any enmity between Doorgadass and Keta Wora. Keta Wora was not my vukeel when the boundary dispute was being settled, but he was my vukeel formerly; on this account he asked about the money. Kusheeajee was not present when Keta Wora asked me.

June 1846.

(signed) *Jhareja Hurreebaee.*

Jussa Wora's son, Weecha, was the vakeel of Wudwan; he was dismissed, and Doorgadass was kept; then he carried on the business. He made one or two petitions about the robbery of the dher, and after that went to his village. I had the copies of them, and gave them to Keta Wora, who carried on the business upon them.

(signed) *Jhareja Hurreebhaee.*

(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Acting First Assistant Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

14 July.

I BROUGHT the map of the boundary from my villages; it was drawn by a Khuwas,* and I had another map made in Rajkote by a Brahmin; I forget his name.

* A certain caste.

Questioned by Vukeel *Doorgadass.*] I did not get this map from Keta Wora. I and Doorgadass went to the Brahmin to have the map drawn, and at that time Keta Wora was not present; I did not even show Keta Wora the map. I and Kusheeajee gave these rupees in the evening, in the Wudwan house; the day was past; I gave it when you were sitting on the matting. I do not remember which way your face was turned at the time.

Questioned by Mr. *Barr.*] I, and Kusheeajee, and Doorgadass, were the only persons present. Jussa Wora's mother was sick. I went daily to his house to see her, and I often saw Keta Wora sitting there.

Questioned by Vukeel *Doorgadass.*] You had on a dhotee only?—I brought the rupees tied up in a cloth, but I do not remember what cloth it was. You put the money in a small cloth, and put it into a box. I do not remember whether that small cloth was yellow or white. I do not remember where that cloth was lying. They were Company's rupees. We two sat there after I gave you the rupees. I brought these rupees in my own hands. Kusheeajee did not bring them. When I came to give the money the door was shut, and the window open. There was no light in the house.

(signed) *Hurreebhaee.*

(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Acting Assistant Political Agent.

DEPOSITION of *Doorgadass Dyaram,* aged about 37 years; caste, Nogur; religion, Hindoo; profession, Vukeel; inhabitant of Wusawur, in presence of Mr. Barr, Assistant Political Agent in Kattywar, on 2d Jait Wud 8th, Tuesday 1903 (6 July 1847) at Rajkote.

KHETA WORA gave me 30 (thirty) rupees in Jussalbora's house.

Question by *Kheta Wora.*] In what month did I give it you?—*A.* I think it was in the month of Kartuk.

Doorgadass goes on to state:—Kheta Wora first came to me at the Wudwan house, and said: "I will give you 30 rupees from the Lutoora man, and you must exert yourself in his business; and should I ever bring the Lutoora man, and ask you what you have done with the rupees, you must say you have given 60 rupees to Goolabraee." After this, Jhareja Hurreebhaee and Kheta Wora came to me on the same day, and the latter asked me the above question, and I returned him the answer as above. Two or three days after this, Kheta Wora gave me 30 Company's rupees in Jussawora's house, and on the same day I paid these rupees into the shop of Shunganee Remchund Bheemjee. After that, I met Hurreebhaee, who questioned me; and I said, "Ask the person to whom you gave it; it is not for Goolabraee; and Kheta Wora told me that in case there were ever any inquiry by Government into the affair, I must say that it was given to Goolabraee."

By *Kheta Wora.*] Did I tell you this before or after having given the rupees?—Before giving them.

Who was present at the time?—No one except you and myself.

When Hurreebhaee questioned you, did you tell him you had received the money or not?—I did not tell him of my having received 30 rupees.

Did Hurreebhaee ask you whether you had received 60 rupees, or did he not?—Hurreebhaee said to me, that Kheta Wora had given 60 rupees to Goolabraee, and asked me if it was true or not; and I told him to ask the person to whom he himself had given it, and said that Kheta Wora had deceived him.

Which house is nearest to yours, mine or Jussa Wora's?—At that time Jussa Wora's mother was sick, therefore you lived there; and you gave me, in Jussa Wora's house, the rupees out of a Bombay dooputta (cloth).

Did you come of your own accord to get these rupees, or did any one call you?—I came because you called me.

By Mr. *Barr.*] You said you paid the money into the shop of the Shunganee; did you send it by any person or did you take it there yourself?—I took the rupees myself to his shop and gave them into the hands of his vukeel dunjee, and told him to put them to my credit.

By *Kheta Wora.*] Was any one present when you paid in the rupees?—No; no one was present at the time.

When you came to Jussa Wora's house, who was sitting there; did you see any one?—Your mother was sick in the house, which has windows; some men may have been sitting there; but I called you from outside, on which you came out. I then said, "Where is the money?" You answered, "It is here, I have put it aside for you." After this you called me into another house, and gave it me.

When you came to Jussa Wora's house did you see any people?—No; I saw no one.

(signed) *Doorgadass Dyaram.*

Questioned by *Kheta Wora.*] Was Kusheeajee in Rajkote at that time, or not?—I do not remember whether he was or not.

You

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

You say you received the money; how many days did the Lutoora grassias remain in Rajkote after your receiving it?—They did not come to me after the boundary question was settled by the oath of Kurshun Shung; they did not approve of that document being written, but I wrote it on the part of my talookdar; on that account they were angry with me; they had first written a document of three paragraphs, and therefore I wrote this one.

Hurreebhaee asked you once about the rupees, did he ever ask you about them again afterwards?—No; he did not ask me a second time about them.

(signed) *Doorgadass Dyaram.*

(signed) *J. T. Barr,* Assistant Political Agent.

The above written depositions were read to Doorgadass and Kheta Wora, in the presence of the Political Agent, and were confirmed by them as being correct.

Doorgadass is questioned.] Can you show the account of this 30 rupees?—Yes; it is placed to my account in the books of Shunganee Premchund Bhimjee, of Rajkote; I will send for it and show it.

This book of Sumvut 1903, belonging to Shunganee Premchund, being examined, the following entry is found:— 1847.

Sumvut 1903 Kartik Shood 13th	Mehta Doorgadass Keekanee	Rs. 30, Bombay Cash. Shood 13th.	1 Nov. 1846.

The day-book and cash-book of Shunganee Premchund, for the year St. 1903, are here examined, and in the date, Kartik Shood 13th, is the entry of 30 rupees 90 korees to the name of Doorgadass, and no other entry of 30 rupees or 60 rupees is found in his name, either to his credit or debit. 1847.

Question to *Doorgadass.*] Kheta Wora's books of this year have been examined, and there are no entries either of 30 rupees or 60 rupees, which are at all suspicious; how is this?—How can I tell?

(signed) *Doorgadass.*

Deposed to before me, this 6th day of September 1847, at Rajkote.

(signed) *W. Lang,* Political Agent.

Deposition of *Khetsee Ghela,* aged about 35 years; caste, Moadwania; tribe, Borah; religion, Hindoo; profession, Vukeel; at present Vukeel of Moreve; inhabitant of Rajkote; in presence of Mr. Barr, Assistant Political Agent, on the 3d July 1847 (Jait Wud 5th, Saturday), at Rajkote.

In answer to Questions.] When my nephew, Weecha, was vukeel of Wudwan, at that time the grassias of Lutoora entrusted their business to me. In the month of Shrawun or Badurwah, 1903, Hurreebhaee and Kusheeajee came here; at that time Doorgadass was the vukeel of Wudwan, therefore I did not carry on their business; I only managed the business of the robbery of the dher of Lutoora. I think this was settled before they came; this was the only business I managed. The business of the boundary of Lutoora and Doodrej was carried on before Captain Aston; I knew the whole business. Doorgadass carried on this business, but did not ask me for any information on the subject; the documents of it are in the books of Wudwan, and not with me. I never before this heard of money being taken for Goolabraee on account of this business; I have now heard it from Major Lang. July–Aug. 1846.

(signed) *Khetsee Ghela.*

(signed) *J. T. Barr,* Assistant Political Agent.

---

6 July.

Q. Did you ever before this wish to accuse Goolabraee, or any other Government servant, of bribery?—*A.* I am acquainted with the affair of the letter sent to Government by Hatia Wala, but I do not know of any other.

By whom was this business carried on?—It was carried on by Apajee Mookun.

(signed) *Borah Khetsee Ghela.*

(signed) *J. T. Barr,* Assistant Political Agent.

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14 July.

By *Doorgadass Wukeel.*] I do not know whether the map of the Lutoora and Doorej boundary was in my house or not; this can be found out from the office. I do not now remember whether I gave the map to Hurreebhaee and Doorgadass or not, because I make maps for many other people.

By *Mr. Barr.*] I saw one map of this boundary which was made by Kurshun Khuwas; I do not remember who showed it to me; I do not remember whether I saw it at Captain Aston's or at my own house. If I made the map, the copy of it must be in my house; I will

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

will look for it and tell you to-morrow. There never was either friendship or enmity between me and Doorgadass. I did not go to Doorgadass in the Wudwan-house; I go there when the Karbaree of Wudwan comes. Doorgadass is not in the habit of coming to my house, and if he ever came I do not remember it. I was not there when I saw the map. It is the custom to show such things sometimes to an acquaintance, and it may have been shown me in this manner. I have no enmity towards them. I have no enmity to Goolabraee; if he bears any towards me he knows it. Apajee is not a friend of mine; he does not now visit my house. He formerly made disclosures against me in the case of Hatia Wala; from that enmity took place between us. Apajee told my name in that affair, and from that day, and on that account, enmity has existed between us, and not friendship. I never gave information against any Government servant, except Wala Hatia and Munguljee Booj.

Questioned by *Doorgadass.*] You had the map of the Lutoora and Doodrej boundary made by Bugwanjee, so I heard; I do not remember that I said to Bhugwanjee, "I will pay you money, so make the map well."

Khetsee goes on to state—You lived at the house of Moljee Kuleeanjee, and therefore Bhugwanjee was your friend.

Questioned by *Doorgadass.*] I had no communication with you three or four days ago, but I saw you frequently on the road; I did not speak to you at all on the road.

(signed) *Khetsee Ghela.*

(signed) *J. T. Barr,* Assistant Political Agent.

The above was read to Khetsee Ghela on the 6th September, in the presence of the Political Agent, and was confirmed by the former as being correct.

Q. Do you keep an account of the money you receive and pay?—*A.* I keep accounts of the money I receive and pay, but I do not keep day-book and cash-book, like a shroff.

Where is your account book?—It is at my house; I will send for it and show it to you.

1847. Kheta Wora's account book for the year St. 1903, is here produced, and on examination no entry is found of his having received either the sum of 60 rupees or 30 rupees.

Q. Have you any money transactions with any sowcar?—*A.* Whatever transactions I have had with sowcars are written in my account-book; I have no other besides these.

(signed) *Khetsee.*

Deposed to before me, this 6th day of September 1847, at Rajkote.

(signed) *W. Lang,* Political Agent.

(True translations)

(signed) J. Nicholson,
Acting Third Assistant Political Agent.

(True copies)

(signed) W. Lang, Political Agent.

No. 7546. MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Reid* and the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby.*

THERE appears no doubt that this transaction was originally concerted as a conspiracy against Goolabraee, the karkoon of the First Assistant Political Agent, Kattywar. I approve Captain Lang's recommendation for the dismissal of Doorgadass Dyaram from practice as a vakeel before the political authorities in Kattywar, and the interdict against the employ by the tributaries.

I think the suspicions against Khet Wora so strong, that his continued practice as a vakeel should depend on his former character.

I do not think it necessary that the Political Agent should issue sunnuds to the vakeels; but he should, on the appointment of a vakeel by a tributary, institute inquiries into his character, and refuse to permit him to practice unless the result were satisfactory.

(signed) *G. Clerk.*
L. R. Reid.
J. P. Willoughby.

25 September 1847.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby*.

No. 7547.

I THINK the Political Agent should be requested to state whether the sum of 60 rupees cannot be received from the parties who obtained it under false pretences, and be restored to the grassias.

30 September 1847. (signed) *J. P. Willoughby.*

No. 3742 of 1847.—Political Department.

No. 7548.

From *A. Malet*, Esquire, Chief Secretary to Government, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Kattywar.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, with enclosures No. 119, dated the 8th ultimo, reporting the circumstances connected with the exaction, from certain grassias, by vukeels mentioned in the margin,* of a bribe of 60 rupees, in the name of Goolabraee, your first assistant's karkoon, and the appropriation by them of the amount to their own use.

* Doorgadass, Dyaram and Kheta Wora.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you, that the Honourable the Governor in Council entertains no doubt that the transaction was originally concerted as a conspiracy against Goolabraee, and in compliance with your recommendation authorizes the dismissal of Doorgadass Dyaram from practice as a vukeel before the political authorities in Kattywar, and the interdict against his employ by the tributaries.

3. The Governor in Council considers the suspicions against Kheta Wora so strong, that his continued practice as a vukeel should depend on his former character.

4. The Governor in Council does not conceive it necessary that you should issue sunnuds to the vukeels practising in Kattywar, but is of opinion that it will be sufficient for you, on the appointment of a vukeel by a tributary, to institute inquiries into his character, and to refuse to permit him to practice unless the result be satisfactory.

5. The Governor in Council, in conclusion, desires me to request that you will be pleased to state whether the sum of (60) sixty rupees cannot be recovered from the parties who obtained it under false pretences, and be restored to the grassias.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 4 October 1847.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 17 November 1847.

No. 8840.

Government, No. 113 of 1847.—General, No. 465.—Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *A. Malet*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

1. I REGRET to report that I have been under the necessity of suspending the native agent, Bhugwan Laul, and the first assistant's head carcoon, Goolabraee, from the performance of their duty, for receiving presents from the Chief of Rajcote on the occasion of certain religious ceremonies in their houses last year, in direct disobedience of the Government Circular of the 25th February 1846, which had been published in Guzerattee by my predecessor a short time before.

2. The information against Goolabraee was given to my assistant, Mr. Barr, by a person named Appa Mookund, who has long been very inimical to both

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

the parties above mentioned, and is doubtless connected with the party from whom so many anonymous petitions against them have emanated. He had only a short time before given that officer information of some money having been paid to Goolabraee as a bribe of some petty grassias in Jhallawar, which on investigating Mr. Barr satisfactorily proved to have been kept by one or more wukeels, who took it in Goolabraee's name, but without the slightest reason to suspect that he knew anything about it. This case will be separately reported when the inquiry regarding the number of wukeels implicated has been completed, in order that such example as Government may direct may be made of the guilty parties to deter others from similar practices hereafter. In consequence of this, and the enmity known to be borne by Appa Mookund to our native establishment, Mr. Barr required him to state the name of his informant before he would enter into any inquiry into the further charge against Goolabraee for receiving presents from the Rajcote Durbar.

3. This he would not do, however; but as the charge was persisted in, and it was asserted that a reference to the account books of a sowcar in Rajcote, named Jeena Kheemjee, would suffice to establish it, I requested Mr. Barr, soon after my late return to camp, to send for the sowcar, or his goomashta, and the books required. These were at once produced, and several alterations were found to have been made in them only the day before, when I had sent over the petition of Appajee Mookund to Mr. Barr for further inquiry. This led to the examination of the durbar dufturee, Lauljee Parick, who produced an account book from the durbar to prove how a mundul or turban, one of the presents asserted to have been made to Goolabraee, had been disposed of, which book had so evidently had several leaves taken out of it, and others substituted for them in the handwriting of Lauljee Parick, that I deemed it my duty to detain him in the Treasury Guard, pending the further investigation of the case.

4. This led, after a few days, to his confessing what he had done; but in the meantime, when endeavouring to ascertain what particular alterations had been made in the accounts of the durbar karbaree, Anuntjee Umerchund, which were those to which suspicion attached, by comparing them with the durbar awura and khata (journal and ledger) for the same year, an entry of 1,000 coorees was discovered in two items as having been given to the rajashree (an honorary title), but without any name. This has since been ascertained to refer to the native agent, Bhugwan Laul; but the investigation regarding it has not yet been completed, and will therefore be separately reported hereafter.

5. The accusation against Goolabraee is for having received presents of a mundal or turban valued at 63 coorees, and three items aggregating 80 coorees in money, the former from the durbar, and the latter from the shop of Jeena Kheemjee, in which the durbar karbaree, Anuntjee, is a principal shareholder, on the occasion of a mundul or religious meeting, which was held in his house in Rajcote in September last, and in which it is usual to make presents both to the Brahmins who attend and to the person in whose house it is held. It was afterwards discovered that two pieces of women's clothing, valued at 28 rupees, had been given to Goolabraee's wife by the mother of the young thacor on the same occasion. These last are admitted by Goolabraee, and accounted for by stating that some of his wife's relations were formerly employed as karbarees by the Rajcote chief, and that the baee had therefore insisted on her receiving these presents. All the other articles are denied by Goolabraee; but the direct evidence of Lalljee Parick, together with the altering of the durbar books, and the unsatisfactory testimony of the baee and her brother Oomedsing, to endeavour to account otherwise for the turban, leaves no doubt on my mind that he received this also. As regards the money, Goolabraee admits that some of it may have been taken by the Brahmins who attended at the ceremony; but in this case also there is the direct and unwilling evidence against him of Anuntjee's goomashta, Suddasunkur, together with the alterations in Jeena Kheemjee's books, and although there is no evidence of his having authorised these to be made, their having taken place the very evening of the day on which he saw Appa Mookund's petition sent by me to Mr. Barr, is of course most suspicious. On this point, however, as the goomashta,

goomashta asserts that he knew nothing of the alterations which were made, he is, I think, entitled to the full benefit of the doubt in his favour.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

6. As both Lauljee Parick and Suddasunker, however, denied in the first instance that anything had been given to Goolabraee, Government may perhaps consider the evidence insufficient to convict him. The whole of it is forwarded herewith, agreeably to the accompanying Index, including the extracts from the several account books in which alterations have been made; but even if Government come to the same conclusion which I have myself found it impossible to resist, I should hope that three months' suspension from pay and duty would be considered a sufficient punishment in this case. A wide line must always be drawn between an offence of this description and bribery, and I am given credibly to understand that the practice of interchanging presents with the chiefs on occasions of religious or family ceremonies, however improper, was very common before the Government Circular against it was published. The presents received in this case were moreover of very trifling value, and I am humbly of opinion that dismissal from the service on this, the first occasion of a case of the kind being noticed, would be much too severe a punishment for the offence committed.

7. If this recommendation is approved of, I would respectfully suggest that the opportunity should be taken to issue a proclamation, requiring any of the chiefs, or others who may have any complaints of bribery to prefer against any of the members of the Political Agent's establishment, to do so within the period of three months, after which date none referring to transactions which had taken place up to that time would be entertained by Government, unless produced with self-evident proof of their correctness, and seriously warning them that should it hereafter be discovered by other means that any of them withheld proof of the guilt of any of our native establishment which was in their possession, they would incur the severe displeasure of Government. It is quite impossible to explain the amount of inconvenience and hinderance to the current business of the country which these constantly recurring complaints occasion, and if there are any good grounds for them, the proclamation above alluded to would doubtless elicit some proof of their correctness; whereas if none such were brought forward, we should, I think, be justified in disregarding such charges altogether, and ascribing them entirely to enmity, unless brought forward with such clear proof as to ensure conviction, without the serious loss of time and hinderance to still more important business, occasioned by protracted inquiries into such accusations.

8. Besides the alterations made by Lauljee Parick in the durbar books, it will be seen that Suddasunker confesses to having made others in those of Anuntjee Umurchund, the durbar karbaree. Both of these individuals would be amenable in our own districts to severe punishment; but as the former was detained in the Treasury Guard for a fortnight till the Karbaree Anuntjee arrived from Joonaghur, I hope this will be considered a sufficient warning in the present case, and that both of them may be pardoned in consideration of their having told the truth in the end. If considered necessary, a proclamation might at the same time be put up in the kucherry, warning all parties of the responsibility incurred by making such alterations in account or other books, with the view of defeating the ends of justice.

9. In case of Government entertaining any doubt of the propriety of adopting the lenient course I have ventured to recommend in Goolabraee's case, I beg to forward copies of the high testimonials of character which he has received from the several officers he has served under in this Agency, and which, as the offence does not come under the head of bribery and corruption, will, I feel assured, be allowed their full weight in his favour.

10. In the case of Bhugwan Laul, one of the items of 500 coorees was taken before and one after the publication by my predecessor of the Government Circular against the receipt of presents, and of the last he has likewise some explanation to offer, of which he will doubtless receive every benefit that can justly be allowed him. In his case, however, I fear that Government will consider a much severer punishment necessary, even if his more serious offence can be overlooked without dismissal, in consideration of his useful and zealous

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

services heretofore. I shall, therefore, feel obliged by your obtaining early instructions for me for my entertaining two or three carcoons temporarily on a portion of the salaries of Bugwan Laul and Goolabraee from the date of their suspension, and dividing the balance amongst the other carcoons, who will have much extra work to perform in the meantime, requiring their attendance in kucherry for about nine or ten hours daily.

I have, &c.

Katteewar Political Agency, Rajcote, 18 August 1847.

(signed) *W. Lang,* Political Agent.

Enclosure No. 1, to Government Letter, No. 113, dated 18 August 1847.

INDEX.

No. 1.—Petition of Appajee Mookund, the Informer - - - - - - - - - p. 744

No. 2.— Ditto - - - ditto - - - ditto - - - - - - - - - p. 745

No. 3.—Deposition of Sudasunkur Moolsunkur Goomashta of Anutjee Amurchund, Kurbharee of the Nawaub of Joonaghur, and Thakoor of Rajkote, before Mr. Barr - - - - p. 745

No. 4.—Deposition of Gangjee Kuhan, Goomashta of Jeena Kemjee, shopkeeper, and Rajkote Durbar Modee, &c. - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 746

No. 5.—Deposition of Goolabree Umbashunkur, First Assistant's Head Karkoon, before Mr. Barr - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 746

No. 6.—Deposition of Laljee Parik, a Bunya in the service of the Rajkote Durbar, acknowledging purchase of a mundeel, but denying all knowledge of its disposal - - - p. 747

No. 7.—Deposition of Lalljee Pertambur, after consulting with the Baee Naneeba, attempting to account for the disposal of the said mundeel or turban - - - - - - - - p. 747

No. 8.—Deposition of Oomed Singh, the Maternal Uncle of the Thakoor of Rajkote, denying knowledge of the turban being given to Goolabraee; attempting to account for its disposal otherwise - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 748

No. 9.—Deposition of Baee Naneeba, the Mother of the Thakoor of Rajkote, also denying all knowledge of the turban being given to Goolabraee, and otherwise accounting for its disposal - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 748

No. 10.—Deposition of Lalljee Peetambur, contradicting his two former statements, and confessing to his having altered the Durbar books - - - - - - - - - - - p. 749

No. 11.—Writing from a Committee of four Goomashtas, containing their opinion on the Durbar books being altered - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 750

No. 12.—Deposition of Gunga Ram Peetambur, employed as a Writer by the Rajkote Durbar, confessing to have transcribed part of one of the new leaves in the Durbar book - - p 751

No. 13.—Petition of Goolabraee, First Assistant's Head Karkoon, after receiving information from his Family at Joonaghur, replying to the several charges - - - - - - - - p. 751

No. 14.—Deposition of Goolabraee, before Mr. Black, acknowledging the receipt of certain articles, and denying receipt of others - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 752

No. 15.—Writing from the above four Goomashtas, stating their opinion as to Anutjee Anurchund's book having been altered - - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 752

No. 16.—Deposition of Sudashunkur Mool Shunkur, confessing his having altered Anutjee's book, and paid the Korees to Goolabraee - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 753

No. 17.—Deposition of Anutjee Amurchund, acknowledging his knowledge of the alteration of his books after it had been done - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - p. 753

(signed) *W. Lang,* Political Agent.

From *Appajee Mookund* to Mr. *Barr,* Acting First Assistant Political Agent.

A. C.

I BEG to represent, that I presented a petition to you, containing two charges, two days ago, and you commenced to investigate the matter on this account. I was preparing to lay further information before you, when, in the meantime, Nuthoo Deo Kurun's chopras were given to you; on the news of this spreading through Rajkote, a nuggur of Joonaghur came clandestinely to my house straightway, and said, I have many proofs against Goolabraee, which I will show you, provided you keep my name secret, for I am in his house, and should I be discovered I shall be killed; he then took an oath on the geetajee, and satisfied me, and giving me an oath not to reveal his name, said that Mr. Malet, on the 6th Phagun Shood of Sumvut 1902, the 3d March 1846, gave an order to the following effect: that Mr. Willoughby's letter, No. 771, February 25th, had been received, containing an order that no Government servant shall give to or receive from talookdars or others any presents on occasions of marriages, deaths, or other ceremonies; this was the order, but Goolabraee disregarding this order held a mundul at his house, and on that occasion at that ceremony received presents of clothes, &c. (wudawa), from certain persons, the particulars of which are as follow: Anutjee Amurchund, Goolabraee, and Sunganee Durumshee Kemjee, of Gondul, carry on business at Rajkote, under the name of Jeena Kemjee, in the

awuro

awuro and dunia for Badurwa last, the following entries occur: 10 korees to be debited to Show Muchun Dewchund; 10 korees given Raja Shree Goolabraee; 10 korees to be debited to profit and loss account given to Raja Shree Goolabree on the occasion of there being a mundul at his house; 60 korees to be debited to Raja Shree Anutjee Amurchund's account, given to Raja Shree Goolabree on the occasion of the mundul at his house; 63 korees Baee Naneeba, of the Rajcote durbar, and the uncle (of the thakoor); Oomed Singh and Parek Lalljee on the occasion of the mundul gave to Goolabraee's house; (this sum) Sha Muchum Deochund and Goolabraee carry on a trade in cloth together; they (the three above-mentioned, or the durbar), bought from their firm a mandeel for 63 korees, and put it on the head of Goolabraee, and the durbar gave in payment to Sha Muckun Deochund a note of hand on Jeena Kemjee for the amount; the account of this is entered in Jeena Kemjee's books in the durbar account as follows: For a mundeel to the durbar, paid to Sha Muckun Deochund in the same Badurwa.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

The above is written in Sungaun Jeena Kemjee's awuro and dunio for St. 1902, and the profit and loss is entered according to the shares; therefore send a peon and at once seize and inspect these two chopras, and take the deposition immediately of the head goomashta of the shop, and if you will investigate this business, without revealing my name, I shall next day produce further proof; thus he told, from which I was satisfied, therefore I beg you will immediately send for and inspect these books; the pages of the awuro are 517, 518, 528. This I beg to represent.

Sumvut, 1903, Jet 1st. (signed) *Appajee Mookund.*
(24 May 1847.)

No. 2.

PETITION from *Appajee Mookund* to Captain *William Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar.

I BEG to represent, that on the 14th of the month Badurwa Shood, Sumvut 1902, Mehta Goolab Raee, on the occasion of a mundur being held at his house, notwithstanding the Government zahirnama (prohibiting presents to be received), accepted a present; on this subject, from the third paragraph of my petition, the books of Jeena Kemjee were examined, and it was proved that the entry had been written over or altered, and the name was also proved. On that day Naneeba, the mother of Meramunjee, takoor of Rajkote, went to his house and presented Goolabraee with a mundeel at night, which she had purchased. Hala Oomed Singh and Parek Lalljee know of this, but at present they do not acknowledge it, for on the evening of Friday they altered Jeena Kemjee's books, and next day (yesterday morning), Oomed Singh and Metta Shuda Shunker went at eight o'clock to Lalljee Parek's house, and there made arrangements as to what they would say, and to-day, about from 10 o'clock till 12 o'clock, Oomer Singh, Lalljee Parek, Lurwaree Kanjee, Anopram Makur and Suda Sunker met together and held a council, and determined not to acknowledge anything. The auwara chopra contained the name; that page was taken out, and the auwaro is incomplete; this I heard of secretly, therefore I beg to represent, that on such an occasion it is not the custom for any one to go to his house without giving something. The koowar is but young, and the Government is in the hands of the baee, and there is no reason why she should have gone to Goolabraee's house without giving him a present; and as for the others who gave presents, if you ask that, my answer is, it was proved by the investigation yesterday, besides the following shopkeepers went and gave him a koree each, viz., Anutjee Damodur, Sunganee Premchund Beemjee, and Shah Manuk Chund Juvea, and Thuker Veljee Mooljee; the sums are entered in their daily accounts, and as these people did not visit him without making him a present, how could the durbar go without giving something; therefore by examining the above-mentioned persons, and the durbar books, and the above-mentioned merchants' awura, and by sending Mr. Black, or any karkoon (those belonging Joonaghur excepted), to administer an oath to the baee and question her, and afterwards to question Oomed Singh and Lalljee Parek on oath, and examining the books, it will be apparent; should delay take place, and should they get information of what is going on, it will create more trouble. This I beg to represent.

25 July 1847. (signed) *Appajee Mookund.*

(True translations.)
(signed) J. Black,
Acting Second Assistant Political Agent.

No. 3.

Sudashunker Moolshunker, age 30 years, inhabitant of Mangrole, Metta of Anuntjee Amerchund, in presence of Lieutenant J. T. Barr, Acting First Assistant Political Agent, gives the following replies to the questions put to him.

Question. DID you receive the amounts, entered as paid to you in the chopras now produced, and if so, how did you dispose of the money?—*Answer.* I did receive these amounts,

Vide Appendix (A.)

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

amounts, but they were given to me by my master, Anutjee, and were not transferred by me to any other party.

Can you account for the correction made in the one entry now shown to you, or the addition made in the other?—No; corrections are very commonly made, and the addition now pointed out is not a recent one; neither the correction nor the addition is, to the best of my knowledge, recent.

Do you know how the first entry stood before it was corrected?—No.

How can you say this, when you must be aware that these chopras were taken to your house last night; I have good authority for knowing that this was the case?—Oh, it is customary to bring these chopras to my house for examination.

What entries were you examining last night then?—The entries referred to my own private accounts, but were not those now pointed out.

Then you admit that the chopras were taken to your house?—They might have been. I did not return home till late; they were at my house when I returned. I was at the kutchery all day.

Did you hear that a complaint had been lodged that day by a person named "Appah" against Golabraee, the first assistant head karkoon?—No.

Did you see Golabraee that day?—I might have, but I had no particular communication with him.

[Witness here withdraws.

The gomashta's evidence, No. 4, is taken in presence of Golabraee, who, after the gomashta withdraws, requests permission to recall and examine Sedashunker. This request is complied with.

Remember, you may have to swear to what you state; who made the erasure in the chopra?—I did; because on inspection I found that Golabraee's name had been entered, and I knew that the money had not been paid to him, but to me; I also caused the gomashta to add (for the purpose of giving to Bramins), to the other entry, because I knew that the money had been paid to Golabre for this purpose.

By Lieutenant *Barr.*] Why did you answer differently before?—I made a mistake.

Who empowered you to make this alteration and addition in the chopra?—I have power to correct the books when necessary, and I did not consult Anutjee on this occasion, because he is at Joonaghur.

Did you consult any one else?—No.

Not even Golabrow?—No.

Did you tell Golabrow of his name being in the book?—No.

No. 4.

Tucker Gangjee Kulian, age 50 years, inhabitant of Hurreeana, Gomashta of Sunganee Jeena Keemjee, in presence of Lieutenant Barr, Acting First Assistant Political Agent, gives the following answers to the queries put to him.

Question. WHO altered the entry now pointed out to you in the chopra?—*Answer.* The entry pointed out is altered, and the alteration was made by Sedashinker, who inspected these chopras; the addition Brahmun made to the other entry pointed out, is in my handwriting, and it was added by order of Sidashinkur; Sidashinkur directed me to attend with these chopras at his house last night.

What reason did Sidashinkur give for the alteration and addition just made in the chopra?—He said they were necessary, because some one had given information regarding something contained in these chopras to Goverement.

24 July 1847. (signed) *Tucker Ganjee Kullian.*

No. 5.

Golabrow Umbashunkur, age 37 years, inhabitant of Joonaghur, Head Karkoon to the First Assistant Political Agent, in presence of Lieutenant J. T. Barr, gives the following replies to the questions put to him.

Question. YOU have heard the depositions of the two witnesses who have just withdrawn; what is your explanation?—*Answer.* I have no explanation to give with regard to the gomashta's deposition, which must be true, as Sedashinkur acknowledges it to be so; Sedashinkur may have made the alteration and ordered the addition to the entries in the chopra, lest I might get into difficulties because my name had been falsely entered, or he may have been directed to act as he did.

Did you give him any instructions on the subject?—No; I did not know my name was in the chopra; none of the money was received by me. I knew at Joonaghur that Appah had given information that my name would be found in these chopras; he had presented a petition to this effect to you at Rajkote whilst you were investigating the other complaint he had made, regarding my having received 60 rupees as a bribe from the Satoora grassias. I knew that you refused to seize these books, because Appah would not reveal the name of his informant.

Did

Did you speak to Anutjee at Joonaghur on the subject?—No, I did not.

Did you speak to Seda Shinker, or write to him on this matter?—No.

Was there a mundeel at your house about the time at which these entries are dated?—Yes.

Did the Rajkote thakoor's mother visit your house on this occasion?—Yes, she did.

What karbaree accompanied her?—I do not know; I was intent on religious ceremonies, and did not observe.

Did she ever on any other occasion visit your house?—No.

Is there any ill-will between you and Sedashinkur?—No; he is my friend.

(True translations.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Acting First Assistant Political Agent.

No. 6.

Lalljee Parik, Hindoo, Moor Bunga, aged 45 years, inhabitant of Rajkote, in the service of the Rajkote Durbar, states in presence of Lieutenant J. Black, Acting Second Assistant Political Agent.

Question. Was mundul held in Rajkote last Badurwar, and if so, where?—*Answer.* Yes, there was, at the house of Goolabrow; this I heard; Badurwar is the month in which these munduls are generally held.

Did you go about that time to Golabraee's house?—No, not when the mundul was there.

Did not you go about that time with the mother of the thakoor of Rajkote?—No, I did not.

Who did?—I do not know.

How did you know that the thakoor's mother had gone?—I heard it from the people of the durbar.

On that occasion what karbaree or minister went with the mother of the thakoor?—I do not know.

Did they on that occasion present a mundul to Golabraee?—The durbar in Badurwa last bought from Muckunshaw a mundul, and gave in payment for it a note of hand on Jeena Keemjee, the durbar modee, for 63 korees.

To whom was it given?—I do not know; and I do not know that it was given to any of the durbar servants.

What was the colour of it?—It was of kussoomba* colour.

* Red.

Who bought the turban?—I and the baee bought it; the bunya brought the turban, and the purchase was made in the durbar. I do not know to whom the turban was given, but it is written in the durbar books; by examining them you will know all about it; that chopra is in the durbar, and the entry regarding the turban is in my own writing; others write in the book, but I wrote that entry.

Can you show that entry?—Yes, I will, if you will allow me to go to the durbar chest, where the book is kept; one of your peons may accompany me, and I shall send it with one of my writers.

Note.—According to the witness's request a peon was sent with him to the durbar to fetch the book alluded to, and after a short time he returned, accompanied by a durbar agent, bringing the book with him in which the entries copied into the Appendix, and marked (C.), occur.

(signed) *J. Black,*
Acting Second Assistant Political Agent.

No. 7.

Lalljee Peetamber, Hindoo, Moor Bunya, in the service of the Rajkote Durbar, aged about 45 years, inhabitant of Rajkote, states on oath in presence of Lieutenant J. Black, Acting Second Assistant Political Agent.

Question. Last Badurwa the durbar purchased a mundul from Shah Muckunshaw, of Rajkote, for the sum of 63 korees, and paid it by an order on Jeena Kemjee; to whom was that mundul given?—*Answer.* Since I made my statement to you, I yesterday asked the baee, and her reply was, "It was given to the guests from Bhaonuggur."

When the durbar makes presents, is there any account of them kept in the books, or how, and is there any entry of these presents?—Yes, it is customary, and the person's name to whom the present is given in the entry, crediting the person from whom it is purchased, but whether this particular instance is written or not I do not for certain know, but if it is I shall look for it and tell you; and it is customary to write the names of guests to whom presents are given in another part of the book; by sending for the book and examining it that will be seen.

When the baee Naneeba went to Goolabraee's house, who accompanied her?—I do not know.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

When the presents were made to these mehmans was Kengurjee present?—Kengurjee was present in the durbar, and he died afterwards in the month of Jeh.

Is it customary when the baee goes out on such an occasion as going to a mundul, to take with her anything to present or not?—It is customary when going to a marriage to take a present to give, but it is not the custom at munduls.

Who were the Bhaonuggur guests, and what was given to them?—The Bhaonuggur people came, bringing with them as presents cocoa nuts; what was given to them is entered in the durbar kata for 1903, at page 124, which I now turn up and show you; and as to there being more or less mundeels, the baee can tell you about.

You formerly stated that the mundeel which was procured from Muckunshaw, was given to the Bhaonuggur guests, but now, from the account which you show in the books, it appears that eight mundeels were procured from Joonaghur, and that seven of these were given to the Bhaonuggur guests; where then is the one which was procured from Muckunshaw, and the one in excess of the eight from Joonaghur?—If you will ask the baee she will tell you.

Were you present when these presents were given to the Bhaonuggur guests?—I was present.

Is the account of these presents, as they were given, correctly stated in the book?—Yes; the account of them as entered in this chopra for 1903 is correct.

Between page 141 and 142 a page occurs without a number; who wrote that page, and how comes it to be there?—It is in my writing, and had been forgotton to be numbered.

1903, Assarsood 15th.
(27 July 1847.)

(signed) *Lalljee Peetumbur.*

No. 8.

Oomed Singh Ubeysingh, Hindoo, Jala Rajpoot, aged about 32 years, inhabitant of the Choora Village, called Koondler, presently residing in the Rajkote Durbar, states on oath in presence of Lieutenant J. Black, Acting Second Assistant Political Assistant.

Question. When the mundul was held at Goolabraee's house in Badurwa last, where were you?—I do not know whether I was at Rajkote or Gondul.

Did the Rajkote durbar at that time purchase a mundeel, and if so, to whom was it given?—Yes, the durbar purchased a mundeel for 63 korees from Shah Muckunshah, and gave in payment a note of hand for the amount on Jeena Kemjee. I was not present when the mundeel was purchased, but I knew it from the circumstance of Talljee Parek's asking my permission to write the order for the amount, which he did, and the durbar kept the mundeel and gave it to a guest from Bhaonuggur about two or three months ago.

What is the name of that guest?—There were 30 guests, and I do not know to whomit was given. I was present, and that very mundeel and others were presented.

How did you know that that very mundeel was presented?—Kengurjee, when the bundle of presents was opened, said before the whole of the kutcherry, "That is the Muckunsha mundeel, let us give it to the Bhoanuggur guest."

Did he mention where any of the other pieces of cloth had been purchased, and how?—Yes, he told me that some of them had been procured from Joonaghur.

Was Lalljee Parek then present?—Yes, he was. I do not know whether there is any entry made of the presents to the guests or not.

On examining the entry in the durbar book, it appears that eight mundeels were procured from Joonaghur, and that only seven of these were presented; what became of the eighth, and the one which was got from Muckumsha, which remained in the durbar for six or seven months?—I do not know anything about the books, but Laljee Parek knows.

Sumvut 1903, Assarshood 15th,
(27 July 1847.)

(signed) *Oomed Singh.*

When I first asked you about the Muckunsha mundeel, you said the Bhaonuggur people received it; how did you know it?—Kengurjee told me, and thus I knew.

(signed) *Oomed Singh.*

No. 9.

Statement of *Baee Naneeba*, Mother of Takoor Meranumjee Rajkote, taken by Karkoon Pertabraee, at the Durbar.

Last year, in the month of Badurwa, there was a mundul held at Goolabraee's house, for the purpose of praying to Anunt Deo, and I went to pray to the god at his house; after praying I returned, but I did not give anything to Goolabraee.

Question. Did you take a mundul with you or not?—*Answer.* No, I did not.
Did you send one by any person?—No, I did not.

Show

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Show me the durbar book containing the account of the clothes received and expended?—There is no book kept in the durbar of clothes given away, but, sometimes, when new cloth is purchased, it is entered in the books, and two of these books are now with the (Sahib) Political Agent.

It is suspected, from an investigation, that the leaves of your durbar chopra have been altered; therefore, for the honour of your durbar, state the truth?—What I have stated is correct.

Sumvut 1903, Assarshood 15th.
(27 July.) (signed) *Baee Naneeba.*

What became of the mundeel which was purchased from Sha Muckunsha, and was paid for by a note of hand on Jeena Kenejee?—In Wyshak last, guests from Bhaonuggur came, bringing cocoa-nuts, and that mundeel and others were given, as well as retas, to them; and as it is customary to give presents to our relations we occasionally purchase these things, and lay them in the durbar, so as they may be useful when required.

How many mundeels were given to the Bhaonuggur people?—How can I recollect; some received mundeels, some doteas, and others rings; these things would be presented according to the rank of the person.

Where are the particulars of these presents?—They will be entered at the time the purchase was made, and it will be found in the entry of articles received from Joonaghur; but whatever was given from the durbar stock will not be entered.

Dated as above. (signed) *Baee Naneeba.*

On examining your chopra of 1903, it appears that you procured from Joonaghur eight mundeels, to be given to the Bhoonuggur guests, and seven of these are written off as given accordingly, thus one remains over; then what reason was there for giving the muckunsha mundeel?—Presents were given according to the rank of the person who was to receive them; the muckunsha mundeel was a costly one, it was therefore given; and the one which remained of the eight was given to the son of Bata Dosee, at Bata Dosee's death.

You have now accounted for eight mundeels, what became of the ninth?—I sent it to my nephew, at Seehore, along with other presents; and, on these occasions, it is customary to give away a great many presents, therefore a proper account cannot be kept.

On examining the durbar books, it appears that they are very correctly kept, as they should be; and, as in the Bhaonuggur case, so in other cases, the particulars are written, so ought the entry of the mundeel purchased from Muckunsha to have been accounted for, but where this entry appears it seems that two or three leaves of the book have been altered. Until that is accounted for, it will be necessary to detain your karbaree here; therefore state plainly what is true, and if the leaves which were extracted are in your possession, produce them?—I know nothing about that; but if you (the sirkar) wish to bring me into trouble, and insist upon my stating falsehoods, then how can I resist, and if (the sirkar) you needlessly destroy the reputation of my durbar, in that case also you are master (dhunee).

Produce the invoice of articles received from Joonaghur?—That paper is in my possession, but it may be private, and I do not recollect where it is, but if I should happen to find it I shall give it to you.

27 July. (signed) *Baee Naneeba.*

No. 10.

Lalljee Peetambur, Hindoo; aged about 45 years; inhabitant of Rajkote, states, in the presence of Lieutenant J. Black, Acting Second Assistant Political Agent.

Question. Whatever you may have to state to Bapoobhaee, state in my hearing?—*Answer.* It is regarding the mundeel which was given to Goolabraee.

Who gave the mundeel?—The baee gave it to Goolabraee's wife on the day on which there was a mundeel at Goolabraee's house, and I accompanied the baee. Mamoo Oomed Singh was not present; Goolabraee and his wife were not in the same room; Goolabraee was outside in a small room, and we were in the verandah; Goolabraee, after finishing his prayers, came to where we were.

Did Goolabraee know that it was given?—Yes, he knew it was given to his wife from this circumstance: that when he came, he said, "Why do you go to this expense?" and the baee answered, "It was necessary that I should give it." Goolabraee said, "Very good; keep it."

Where was the mundeel then?—It was inside where the baee was sitting.

Was Oomed Singh in Rajkote at that time; and, if so, why was he not present?—He was at Rajkote, but on account of the relationship he was not there; he was not far away; he was near.

Who besides were present?—Suda Sunkur, or Wanarsee, was present.

The durbar chopra for St. 1902, was here shown to Lal Gee Parek.

How is it with regard to this book?—I took out page 141, and inserted a new leaf; because in this page was an entry of 63 koreas, crediting Sha Muckun Deochund with that amount, and in it was written Goolabraee's name; in order to take his name out, I took out the leaf.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

How does it happen that a numberless page occurs between page 141 and 142?—That page was forgotten in numbering the pages; this I am ready to swear to, and I have not now any dread of the durbar.

When you altered the book, were you in the durbar or at home?—About 8 a.m., when I was sitting at home, Oomed Singh came to my house, and said, "You must alter the entry about the mundeel." This happened on the same day as you sent for me (Mamoo); Oomed Singh was sitting in my house, and my brother was in the durbar. Oomed Singh sent a man (whose name I do not recollect) to him; on this Gungram, my brother, brought the chopra with him to my house; he came alone; there was no one with him. When I was engaged in transcribing the page I had taken out, Sedasunkur came to my house.

Why did Sedashunkur come?—He came on this business; and in answer to his queries I said I had taken out the name and was writing it again; and he said, "Very good; you have done well."

Is there anything to be said about this page, No. 101?—This is a new page which I inserted for the following reason, because on the credit side of this page, it was not as is now written, "For a sirpao to Raja Shree Annutjee," but it was formerly written, "Korees 1,000, for Jinvee and Wastoo to Raja;" this I altered into a present.

Who is meant by the Raja Shree, which you say was written here?—Raja Shree is the servant of Government, Mota Raja Shree is Bugwan Lall.

Through whom was it given?—Through Anutjee Amurchund.

Was it given at once, or at different times?—It was given in two instalments; but in the accounts it is credited to Anutjee in one sum of korees, 1,000, and the particulars will be found in the awura* for 1902, at page 75.

* Journal.

Witness here pointed out an entry of korees 2,081. 7., of which sum this sum of 1,000 korees is one of the items; witness states that the entry is in the handwriting of Hurree Pursand, and it is plainly written there, "given for Ginvee and Watsoo, through Anutjee."

Anutjee Amurchund's awuro for 1902 is here produced, and opened at page 151.

The Thakoor Muamunjee appears to be debited by Anutjee Amurchund with korees 5,914. 13.; explain this transaction?—Of these korees 5,914. 13., it is written that the sum of 500 korees was given or sent to Joonaghur, by the hands of Kowass Jeeno, and other 500 korees through Anutjee Bhaee for the Raja Shree. These two sums of 500 each, amounting to 1,000 korees, are credited at page 152 to Anutjee Amurchund's shop at Joonaghur, through Anutjee, on account of Thakoor Meramunjee, to whom it is debited. Thus it is written.

The entry of mundeels, at page 124 of the bata kata, is here shown to witness.

Is there anything remarkable about this?—No alteration has been made in that book; the entries are of this year.

Lalljee Parek then, of his own accord, and without any question being put to him, said:—The durbar gave to Goolabraee's wife, besides the above-mentioned mundeel, a jadla and choolee kund, valued 33 rupees; these articles are placed to the credit of Sha Muckunsha, at page 114 of the tham kata for 1902; these things were given on the same day as the mundeel was furnished by Baee Naneeba.

Who are those two kowasses, Jeena and Joona, whose names are entered as having given the money; are they durbar servants, or how; and did they both go at the same time?—They are servants of the durbar, and went together to Joonaghur; Jamba, the mother of Sooraja, had gone to Joonaghur; whether they went to her or not, I do not know.

Do you not know for what purpose these men went?—They went, I think, to Jamba.

Did they take the sum of 1,000 korees all in a lump, or in two parcels?—I do not know; but in the durbar books two instalments are written.

31 July. (signed) *Lalljee Peetambur.*

Lalljee Peetambur again called before Lieutenant J. Black.

Question. The durbar chopra for 1902, called the beeta kata, was shown, and witness was asked to explain the entry above alluded to?—*Answer.* It is written in the credit side of this page 114, 33 rupees on Badurwashood 10th, particulars, as follows:—"One sadlo spotted for the durbar, to be debited to durbar, 28 rupees; one cholee kund, five rupees." It now stands thus, but formerly in its place was written, "One sadlo 28 rupees, one cholee kund, five rupees, for Goolabraee's house." It formerly was so, but in order to take Goolabraee's name out, I took out this page and put in a new one; viz., page 115. It is at the foot of page 114, and on the back of page 115.

31 August.

11 August. (signed) *Lalljee Peetambur.*

No. 11.

Shet Wukutchund Kooshalchund's goomashta *Otumdass Shunkurdass*; *Kewuldass Echuram*, *Jumunadass Migindass*, and *Moolchund Sewukram*, writers.

Whereas you (sirkar) have shown to us four a chopra (the durbar chopra), and told us to examine it, and tell whether there is any new writing or pages in it, we have all of us examined that chopra, and the following appears to us to be the case:—

We suspect that page 101 has been taken out, and this new page substituted; and we suspect the writing to be fresh, and there is an error in the summing up of the debtor side of the account, which is 1,888 korees; thus we suspect that leaf.

Page

Page 115 has been altered, we think, from the fresh appearance of the ink.
We are also of opinion that page 141 has been altered, for the paper and ink appear new.
Between 141 and 142 pages, a page occurs without number; this is also suspicious.
Thus (as above written) we suspect that the leaves of this chopra, and the entries, have been altered.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

(signed) *Otumdass Sunkurdass.*
Kewuldass Eechuram.
Jumunadass Migundass.
Moolchund Sewukram.

1903, Assarwud 6th, (Monday, 2 August).

No. 12.

Gunga Ram Peetambur, Hindoo, Mod Bungo, in the service of the Rajkote Durbar as a Mehta, aged about 56 years, at present residing in Rajkote, states before Lieutenant J. Black, Acting Second Assistant Political Agent.

Question. STATE what you know regarding certain leaves of the durbar books having been taken out and others substituted?—*Answer.* One day, I forget which, when I was sitting in the duftur khana,* a man whose name I forget, came and said that Lalljee Parek and the namoo were sitting in the house of Lalljee Pareek, and they sent him for the beeta kata,† for Sumvut 1902. On this I took the book with me to the house of Lalljee Pareek; there Marnoo,‡ Sudashun Kur and Lalljee Parek were sitting. I went into the house and gave them the book, and I then went out and sat in the verandah, and then I do not know whether they altered the books or not.

* Office.
† Daily Account-book.
‡ Uncle of Thakoor.

When did you again receive these books?—About two gurrees after, I received them and carried them back to the durbar duftur kana; and I did not afterwards see the pages of the chopra.

When did you hear that a page or pages had been put in afresh?—I heard it after the books had been sent for by the sirkar.

Did you not, upon going there with the books, ask what was to be done with them?—Why should I ask; I am but a servant.

Were Lalljee Parek, Sudasunkur, and the uncle (Oomed Singh) sitting together from the time you gave them the books up to the time of their returning them to you, or how?—About one gurree after I gave the books, the uncle rose and went out, and afterwards Lalljee gave the books to me, and I returned it into the durbar.

Did you not, on that occasion or afterwards, ever ask what they had been doing with the books?—I am a servant, therefore why should I ask.

Was Sudashunkur sitting in Lalljee Parek's house when you went there, or did he arrive afterwards?—He came immediately after me, and he went to Lalljee Parek.

Inform me for what purpose the book was sent for?—I do not know; I gave the book to Lalljee Parek, and then sat outside in the verandah.

Was Sudasunkur present at the durbar when you took out the book?—No, he was not; he came after me, but from whence I do not know.

In the durbar beeta kata, page 141, there is an entry of "Sugar-cane produce;" look at the writing, and tell me whose it is?—It is written by me.

That is, by Lalljee Parek's statement, a new page; if you were not present, where were you when you wrote this?—Lalljee Parek gave me a separate piece of paper, and told me to go to the durbar duftur khana, and copy the contents, and I did so.

Was anyone present when you afterwards returned the book into the duftur khana?—No.

Sumvut, 1903, Assawud 8th, (3d August 1847,) Rajkote. (signed) *Gangaram Peetambur.*

No. 13.

PETITION from *Goolabraee Umbashunkur* to Captain *W. Lang*, Political Agent.

A. C.

I BEG to represent that Baee Naneeba and others came to my house during the mundul of Assowud 14th; and with reference to your question regarding the mundeel being presented, the baee came to pray; and owing to the customs of the country I was sitting outside, and I did not see the baee present anything. While the mundeel was being held a great many persons were present, and the Brahmins employed in the ceremony do not move until the prayers are finished, and other men and women of the town came to pray there, and what they presented was given before the mundeel, and was that instant removed by the Brahmins. But it is not customary for me (the person at whose house the mundeel is held) to take anything; and with regard to 60 korees given by Unutjee, which you questioned me about, that sum was never received into my house, and the Deo knows why my name is written in the chopra; and they must know, I do not. Wassuntjee Booj's son was karbaree in the durbar for five or ten years. Naneeba, on account of our being

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

relations of the karbaree, insisted, by administering oaths, on giving one got and one choolee kund; this I find on inquiry from the people of my house, and Lalljee Parek states in his deposition that a mundeel was given; but from the reply I have had from Joonaghur, I find that neither Naneeba nor any other person presented any mundeel.

Sumvut, 1903, Shrawun Shood 1st.
Rajkote, 11 August 1847.

No. 14.

Goolabraee Umbashunkur, Hindoo, Nanur, Karkoon, aged about 37, inhabitant of Joonaghur, at present in the service of the Political Agent, states in presence of Lieutenant J. Black, Acting Second Assistant Political Agent.

Question. With regard to the durbar chopra called the beeta kota for Sumvut 1902, at page 141, on the back of the page appears an entry on the credit side, crediting a mundeel to Muckunsha Deochund Badurwa Wud 10, paid by a note of hand for 63 korees to be debited by durbar expenses. On questioning Lalljee Paruck, he says, "I altered that page" (by taking out the leaf), if you know any reason for his doing so; state it?—*Answer.* I do not know any reason he had for altering it, whether it was done through enmity or friendship.

Lalljee Parek was here confronted with *Goolabraee*, and questioned as follows:

Was there any conversation between the baee and Goolabraee at the time the mundeel was given?—The baee and her people from within said to Goolabraee, "Take this mundeel," and Goolabraee said, "Very good; keep it."

To *Goolabraee.*] If you have got anything to say about this, state it?—I beg to say that Lalljee Parek says that they spoke to me about the mundeel, but I do not know anything about it and it is customary among our women to conceal anything that may have been given on the part of their own relations, and also anything they may wish to keep secret from their husbands; and if Naneeba says that she gave a mundeel, ask her into whose hands she placed it. Be pleased to investigate that, for the mundeel was not received into my house.

1903, Sharwun Shood 1, st. (signed) *Goolabraee Umbashunker.*
(11 August 1846.)

No. 15.

Shet Wuckutchund Kooshalchund's head goomashta *Ootumchund Sunkurdass*; and Sha Sackerchund Premchund's goomashta *Jummuradass Nugeendass*; and Vrijbookun Heerachund's head goomashta *Kewulsha Echaram*; and Ambaeedass Pursotum's head goomashta, *Moolchund Sewukram.*

We, the above-mentioned four persons, received from sirkar a chopra, and were told to examine it, as to whether any leaves had been taken out, or whether the writing was fresh; and whether the book appeared to have been opened; and we four have examined the book, and we are of opinion that the binding of the book has been undone.

1st. From the appearance of the book, it looks as if the binding had been undone; for this reason, that several of the leaves which were originally bound in the book have been taken out, and again bound into the book. In several of these the old holes through which the string passed still remain, and new holes have been made in again binding the book, and some of the pages have been placed a little on one side in binding the book a second time, and in doing so when writing the page a blank has been left between the upper side of the page and the lower. From this we are clearly of opinion that the book has been altered.

2d. On examining page 184 we are of opinion that that page was taken from among the blank pages of the same book and placed here. Thus we think, for this reason, that the fold in the centre of this page does not correspond with the others, or is reversed, and the three marks of the former binding string are on this page. Two of these are large, over which small pieces of paper have been pasted, and the third is left open; and other three holes have been made, when inserting this page a second time, and the freshness of the ink also excites suspicion. The above is the opinion of us four persons. We write this for the information of Government.

(signed) *Ootumdass Sunkurdass*, Goomashta of Shet Wuckutchund Koosachund.
Jummuradass Nugeendass, Goomashta of Sha Shackurchund Premchund.
Kewuldass Echaram, Goomashta of Sha Wurujbookun Heerachund.
Moolchund Sewukram, Goomashta of Parek Ambaeedass Purshotumdass

Sumvut 1903, Sharwun Shood 4th, (Saturday, 14 August 1847).

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 16.

Sudasunkur Moolshunkur again called before Lieutenant J. Black, and interrogated before Goolabraee.

Question. In Anutjee's awuro for Sumvut 1902, at page 184, near the place where the cord passes through, there are two pieces of paper pasted on that leaf, and there is a hole; how do you account for that?—*Answer.* I did not paste these pieces of paper, and I did not make the holes.

Between pages 183 and 185 a page occurs, the *sul* or fold in the centre of which does not correspond with those of 183 and 185, how do you account for that?—It must have been inserted when the book was made; it must be one of the old ones; I did not insert any new one.

Page 184 appears to be a new leaf; state therefore what has become of the old one?—I do not know; I did not take it out.

Then inform me who took it out?—I do not know.

Afterwards Sudasunkur states as follows:

I took out the old leaf and put in the new one, because in the debit of these 60 korees it was written for Goolabraee's mundeel,* on this account I altered it, and I have not got the original leaf; I tore it into pieces.

* Religious Ceremony.

How was this given, in hard cash, or clothes, or how?—I put 60 korees before the mundeel, and saluted the mundeel.

How far off was Goolabraee?—Goolabraee and his wife were in the house, and the mundeel was in a verandah or open house.

Were the korees in a bag, or loose?—The korees were not in a bag, but in my hand.

When you presented the korees, who were present?—Brahmins were present, and they were reading.

On what day did you alter this book?—I do not recollect, but it was before the books were taken to Mr. Barr, on the information given by Appa, and after Captain Lang's arrival.

When you were inserting the new page, who was with you, and did the string of the book break or not; and how?—No one was present, and at that time the string broke, I sent for Jeena Kemjee's books to see how the entry was in his book; Gangjee brought them about 8 o'clock, P. M.; I inspected them and gave them back, and he went away immediately, on which I altered the book.

Goolabraee was here questioned.

What have you got to say to what Sudasunkur has just deposed to?—He must have placed these korees before the mundeel; but I do not know anything about it, and I would not think of taking what was placed near the mundeel.

14 August 1847. (signed) *Sudasunkur.*
Goolabraee Umbasunkur.

No. 17.

Anutjee Anurchund, Hindoo, Nagur Brahmin, aged about 38 years, Karbaree, inhabitant of Joonaghur, in the service of His Highness the Nuwab of Joonaghur and the Thakoor of Rajkote, states before Lieutenant J. Black, Acting Second Assistant Political Agent.

Question. On examining your Rajkote chopra for 1902, it appears that one page has been taken out and another put in; it is the page in which 60 korees are debited; how is this?—About four days ago my goomashta, Sudashunkur, told me that he had given 60 korees at Goolabraee's mundul* in 1902, and that he on that account had changed the leaf, because it was entered there.

* Religious ceremony.

Sumvut 1903, Shrawun Shood 6th, (Tuesday, 17 August 1847.) (signed) *Anutjee Amurchund.*

(True translations.)

(signed) J. Black,
Acting 2d Assistant Political Agent.

(True copies.)

(signed) W. Lang,
Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Enclosure 2, to Government Letter, No. 113; dated 18 August 1847.

APPENDIX.

EXHIBITS from (A.) to (C.)

The words printed in *italics* are written in *Red* ink in the M.S.

EXHIBIT (A).

EXTRACT from the Books of Sunganee Jeena Kemjee, of Rajkote, for Sumvut 1902, Guzerattee Badurwa Shood 14th.

10 korees, by Sha Muckundeo Chund, 14th Shood.

10 korees, cash, to be paid to Goolabraee Raja Shree.

10. By profit and loss.

10. Cash paid on the occasion of a mundul, at Raja Shree Goolabraee's house, to Brahmins.

N.B. The words "to Brahmins" appear to have been added lately.

4. By amount debited to Anutjee Damodur.

4. Paid in cash, through Modee Jeta, for the mundul at the house of Raja Shree Goolabraee Bhaee.

Sumvut 1902, Guzerattee Badurwa Wud 4th (Wednesday).

60. By amount debited to Raja Shree Anutjee Umurchund.

60. By cash to be paid to Suda Shunkur Bhaee, as per letter of the Raja Shree.

' *N.B. The entry formerly stood "paid to Sadashunkur Bhaee, to be given to the mundul of Raja Shree Goolabraee."*

Sumvut 1902, Guzerattee Badurwa Wud 8th (Sunday).

63. To amount credited to Sha Muckun Deochund.

63. To one mundeel to be debited to the durbar.

Extract of Entries in the Books of Sanganee Jeena Kemjee, for Sumvut 1902.

Page 514.—In the Daily Accounts for Badurwa Shood 10.

Barduiwa Shood 14th.—Page 517.

10 korees, by amount debited to Sha Muckun Deachun.

10. By cash to be paid to Goolabraee. Page 74.

4. By amount debited Mung Anudjee Damodur.

4. By cash paid to Modee Jeta, to be paid to Raja Shree Goolabraee.

Page 518.

27. 6. By profit and loss.

1° By amount paid at the mundul, at the house of Raja Shree Goolabraee, to Brahmins.

N. B. "To Brahmins" appears to have been added.

Sumvut 1902, Guzerattee Badurwa Wud, 4th; Anwura, page 528.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

71. 8. 0. By amount debited to Raja Shree Anutjee Amurchund.

Page 97.

60. By cash to be paid to Suda Sunkurbaee.

11. By amount credited to Gandee Daya Tokur.

N.B. The correct reading of this entry would appear to be—By cash, through Suda Sunkur, to give to the bhaee.

8. By amount paid through Suda Sunkur, for charity, to the priest of Pertabraee.

Sumvut 1902, Guzerattee Badurwa Wud 8th.—Page 532.

Page 533.

63. To amount credited to Sha Muckun Doechund.

63. To a mundul, to be debited to the durbar.

63. By amount debited to durbar, page 19

63. By a mundeel, to be credited to Sha Muckun Deochund.

Exhibit (B).

Extract from the Awura of Raja Shree Anutjee Amurchund's Shop, at Rajkote, for Sumvut 1902.—Page 184.

60. To cash, for a poshak, to Sudashunkur, as per Anutjee Bhaee's verbal order, to be debited as expenses.

60. By cash for the poshak, received by Mehta Sudashunkur, as per Anutjee Bhaee's verbal order when departing, Badurwa Shood 15.

N. B. This page is the one in which the three old marks of binding are, and which, the Punchayut of the 14th August say, has been newly inserted; and Goomashta Sudashunkur confesses that he took out the page which formerly filled its place, and inserted this new leaf.

Exhibit (C).

Extract from the Beita Khata, of the Rajkote Durbar, for Sumvut 1902.—Page 114.

Shah Muckunsha Deochund's Account, in Rupees, for Sumvut 1902.

33 rupees. To amount credited on Badurwa Shood 10th.

28 rupees. To one sadlo, with spots, for the durbar, to be debited as expenses.

5 To one choolee kund.

N.B. Page 115, on the back of which this entry occurs, is said, by the Punchayut, to be a fresh leaf; and Laljee Parek, in his statement, deposed to having put it in.

Extract from the Account of Jeona Kemjee, as per Beeta Kata of Rajkote Durbar, for Sumvut 1902.—Page 137.

Kos. Page 140.

63. To amount of note of hand, dated Badurwa Wud 10th, paid to Sha Muckun Deochund for a mundeel, purchased from him, and kept in the durbar, to be debited as expenses.

N.B. This entry is written on the back of page 141, which is said, by the Punchayut, to have been put in afresh; and which Lalljee Parek, in his statement, deposes to having changed.

(True extract.)

(signed) *W. Lang*, Political Agent.

(True translation of the extract.)

(signed) W. Lang, Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Enclosure 3, to Government Letter, No. 113, dated 18 August 1847.

I GIVE this to Goolab Rae Ambasunker, to certify that I have a very high opinion of his abilities, zeal, and even integrity (a plant of so rare a growth in this soil). He served me in a crisis of peculiar difficulty, conducting himself so as to give me very material aid, and proving himself fitted for any advancement that, I trust, may be bestowed on him, for the benefit of his employers, as well as in consequence of his own merits.

Rajkote, 1 May 1839. (signed) *G. L. Jacob*, A. P. A.

I HAVE much pleasure in recording the high opinion I entertain of Goolab Raee Ambasunkur Mehta, attached to the First Assistant Political Agent's Kutcherry. During the 18 months I have been officiating as first assistant he has acted under me.

At the Hoozoor station, or whilst out in the districts on deputation, he has on all occasions given me the greatest satisfaction. From him I have received valuable information on the separate jurisdictions of the chiefs, as well as on the manners, laws, customs, and habits of the inhabitants of this peninsula, information which has greatly facilitated the discharge of my duties. He possesses much intelligence, great readiness in comprehending instructions, is a quick writer, and most diligent in his duties.

I entertain much regard for him, and consider Goolab Raee Ambasunkur a valuable servant of Government, and strongly recommend him to the notice of his superiors.

(signed) *H. H. Ramsay*,
Rajkote, 28 November 1842. Acting 1st Assist. Pol. Agent, Katteewar.

I CONSIDER Goolab Raee Karkoon, attached to the first assistant to the Political Agent in Katteewar, a clever, shrewd, industrious man. Next to the native agent, he is perhaps the most efficient working karkoon of the establishment; and I wish that his pay was more commensurate with his deserts.

(signed) *G. L. Jacob*,
Rajkote, 9 January 1843. Acting Pol. Agent.

GOOLABRAEE UMBASHUNKUR has been chiefly with Captain Aston since my arrival in the province, who speaks of him most highly. I believe him to be a very good mehta, and worthy of better pay.

9 May 1846. (signed) *A. Malet.*

GOOLAB RAEE UMBASHUNKER has been under me as head mehta, attached to the First Assistant Political Agent in Katteewar, for the last four years. I have ever found him most diligent, willing, and humble. He is good-tempered and skilful in his business. I believe him to be a trustworthy and able mehta; and in all respects a very valuable public servant.

(signed) *H. Aston*,
2 February 1847. 1st Assist. Pol. Agent.

(True copies.)

(signed) Wm. Lang, Political Agent.

From Captain *Henry Aston*, First Assistant Political Agent, to Captain *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar; dated ship "Owen Glendower," 2 February 1847.

Sir,

PREVIOUS to my departure from India on sick certificate, I was solicited by those natives of the Political Agent's establishment who had been placed immediately under me, for certificates of character. The existing orders of Government of course prevented my complying with such solicitations direct, but I now beg to enclose some certificates to be distributed as you may deem not improper.

2. Regarding the chief mehta attached to me for the last four years, I deem it just to him to make some special observations, having been with me during my long sojourn in the neighbourhood of Joonaghur in 1844, during that necessarily unsettled state of affairs attending the transition of place and power from and to different agents; and having himself been instrumental in keeping me well-informed of events past and passing, a knowledge of which led to the loss of power and degradation of leaders of a party, the centres of intrigue. Joonaghur, too, being the great focus of intrigue in Katteewar, from which numerous other intrigues in other places emanate, or to which they tend, it were to be expected that numerous active and powerful enemies would be raised up against this mehta, Goolabraee Umbashunker, who would not cease to make him an object of persecution; and more especially if the doing so could be made to subserve their purposes of intrigue until their leaders should succeed in accomplishing their object, never lost sight of or abandoned: the restoration to place and power, or participation in collateral advantages. It is not surprising, therefore, that accusations should have been preferred against him by these people,

or

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

or persons directly connected with them in interest; nor will it be surprising if such accusations be reiterated as long as the fallen party remain out of office and power. They probably think that like intrigues against those in office in native states, skill and unscrupulousness, may be sufficient to procure eventual success; at least such proceedings may bolster up their sinking consideration and influence, support the hopes of their party, and prevent their degradation to contemptible insignificance.

3. It has so happened that in his social relations, in commercial connexion, and I believe, in family relationship, Goolabraee Umbashunkur is connected with the party that has come into power and influence in the Joonaghur State; and this would obviously suggest a plausible handle to the opposite party, that in the progress of natives' intrigues, we should expect would be seized, as suggesting any giving colour to undue influence of this native functionary, and the prostitution of this influence to dishonest purposes.

4. I have been ever alive to the possibly improper effect upon Goolabraee of his peculiar relations above alluded to, and have been proportionally watchful to detect it; but I have never seen reason to infer that he was instigated by a partial bias in the expressions of opinions or suggestions that his duties elicited; and I have always found him, in a very unusual degree, communicative of facts and circumstances that may have come to his knowledge, which tended to elicit the truth, whichever side of a case they may have supported. For this and his other qualities I consider him a very valuable public servant, whose place in Katteewar it would be impossible to supply at present, and it would take a long time to train any mehta to become equally useful there.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Aston*,
First Assist. Pol. Agent in Katteewar.

(True copy.)
(signed) Wm. Lang, Political Agent.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor. No. 8841.

I AM of opinion that Captain Lang has formed a correct judgment on the evidence in this case, and have no doubt of the fact that the presents in question were made by the Chief of Rajcote and his family on the occasion of the ceremony at the house of Goolabraee, the karkoon of the first Assistant Political Agent, by whom they were received, in contravention of the orders of Government of the 25th February 1846. Perhaps the Honourable Mr. Willoughby will be so good as to favour the Board with his opinion as to the extent of punishment proper in this case.

25 October 1847. (signed) *G. Clerk.*

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby*, concurred in by the Honourable the Governor and the Honourable Mr. *Reid*. No. 8842.

I CONCUR in the view which Major Lang has taken of the case of Goolabraee. The Political Agent recommends that he be suspended for three months. I would increase the period to six months, and on the expiration of his suspension, employ him, at all events for the present, otherwise than as carcoon to the first assistant.

I cannot approve of the proclamation limiting the period to three months for the receipt of complaints of bribery against members of the agent's establishment; though I am fully sensible of the inconvenience which such complaints occasion in the discharge of the onerous duties of the Agency, and the amount of time they of necessity occupy.

This is, however, unavoidable, and there can be no more important object kept in view than to purify our establishments from the taint of bribery and corruption.

Another objection also to the measure would be, that encouragement would be held out to prefer false charges, which are already unhappily of too frequent occurrence.

The arrangements to be made in consequence of Goolabraee's suspension, as well as those which may become necessary in the event of the native agent being found guilty, should be in conformity with existing regulations.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby.*
G. Clerk.
30 October 1847. *L. R. Reid.*

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 4323 of 1847.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

No. 8843. I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 113, dated the 18th August last, reporting the suspension of Bhugwan Lal, your native agent, and Goolabraee, your first assistant's head carcoon, for having received presents from the Rajkot Durbar, in contravention of the orders of Government of the 25th February 1846.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you that the Governor in Council considers that you have formed a correct judgment on the evidence in this case, and entertains no doubt of the fact that the presents alluded to were made by the chief of Rajkot and his family on the occasion of some ceremony at the house of Goolabraee.

3. The Governor in Council does not, however, consider that three months' suspension will be a sufficient punishment for the offence committed by Goolabraee, and is pleased to increase the period to six months, with the proviso that, on the expiration of this period, that individual should be employed, at all events for the present, on any other duty than as carkoon to your first assistant.

4. The Governor in Council does not approve of the proclamation which you propose issuing, limiting the period to three months for the receipt of complaints of bribery against members of your establishment, though he is fully sensible of the inconvenience which such complaints occasion in the discharge of the onerous duties of the Kattewar Agency, and the amount of time they of necessity occupy.

5. This is, however, unavoidable, and there can be no more important object kept in view than to purify the establishments of the public officers under this Presidency from the taint of bribery and corruption. The measure is also objectionable, as it would hold out encouragement to parties to prefer false charges, which, unhappily, are already of too frequent occurrence.

6. In conclusion, I am desired to inform you that the arrangements to be made in consequence of Goolabraee's suspension, as well as those which may become necessary in the event of Bhugwan Lal's conviction, should be in conformity with existing regulations.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 12 November 1847.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 16 December 1847.

Government, No. 122 of 1847.—General No. 526.—Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *A. Malet*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

No. 9631. WITH reference to the fourth para. of my letter of the 18th ultimo, I have the honour to forward translations of the depositions and other papers in the case of the asserted receipt by Bhugwan Laul Mudunjee, the native agent in this province, of two presents, of 500 coorees each, from the Rajcote Durbar, in the year Sumvut 1902 (A. D. 1845–46), the one as wastoo, on the occasion of performing the usual ceremony on the opening of a new house he had built at Joonaghur, and the other as junoee, when his young son received the Brahminical string.

2. It will be seen that, in his first deposition, Bhugwan Laul denied all knowledge of either of these items, and Annuntjee Amurchund, the karbaree through whom the presents appeared to have been made, when he was first examined,

on

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

on his arrival from Joonaghur, said all he could to support Bhugwan Laul's denial, although before taking his deposition I had not only strictly cautioned him, but pointed out to him that, as the money had evidently been paid to him by the durbar, he could only save the party to whom he might have given it, as far as his evidence was concerned, by taking upon himself the odium and the criminality of having plundered the durbar during the minority of its young chief of 1,000 coorees in the name of some of the native servants of Government, and that he might rest fully assured that such an act would not be lightly passed over.

3. It was easy to perceive in the course of his examination that he was involving himself deeper and deeper in falsehood, and I repeated my warning more than once, but all to no purpose. The following day, however, he requested again to see me, and stated that the story he had told the day before was entirely made up, as I suspected, and that it was impossible for him to tell the truth on such a subject without involving himself in such disagrace with his caste as to run the risk almost of being turned out of it. He saw, however, the dilemma in which he had involved himself, and had, I imagine, been speaking to Bhugwanlaul on the subject, for he went on to state that, in order to clear up the matter to me, and at the same time to save him from part of the odium he must incur in the business, Bhugwanlaul was prepared to disclose all that had occurred, and he hoped he might not be examined till afterwards, if indeed it would then be necessary at all. Of course I pointed out to him that he had already disgraced himself beyond measure in the eyes of all right-thinking people by the course he had adopted, and that, although he never could recover the position he had lost, the sooner he told the truth the better for himself, as his waiting till Bhugwan Laul had done so would only deprive him of any little merit there might be in it. So little reliance, however, could be placed on anything he might say on the subject, that I did not press him further about it.

4. A day or two afterwards, the petition which is numbered 9 in the accompanying proceedings was given in by Bhugwanlaul, and followed by the rodee, numbered 10, from Anutjee. Bhugwanlaul in this admits having received the 500 coorees for wastoo, but states that he was not at Joonaghur at the time, and that it was therefore paid to his family, and excuses himself on the ground that it occurred previous to the publication of the Government Circular prohibiting the interchange of presents on such occasions. He also admits having received 500 corees from Anuntjee's shop at Joonaghur on the other occasion, that of giving the junoee to his son; but as this occurred after the prohibition above alluded to, and he was himself at Joonaghur at the time, he endeavoured to explain it by stating that he considered this payment to be in part of a sum of 1,199 rupees which he had made over to Anuntjee, who has likewise a shop at Rajcote, a short time before, to convey to Joonaghur for him, when they went there together. In Anuntjee's radee, however, he distinctly states that both items were paid by him to Bhugwanlaul, on account of the Rajcote Durbar.

5. It was necessary therefore to endeavour to remove any doubt there might be on this subject, and the further examinations of Bhugwan Laul, and his brother-in-law Kandass, and Anuntjee, which are numbered from 11 to 18 in the accompanying proceedings, were held with that object. Anuntjee at first insisted on his having paid back the amount he received from Bhugwan Laul, at Rajcote, in Company's rupees, at Joonaghur, whereas Bhugwan Laul stated that he had drawn it in coorees, which are the current coin at Joonaghur, in two or three different instalments. In my own mind, I had scarcely a doubt of the truth of Anuntjee's statement, but asked him whether he was ready to take an oath to what he had stated. He at once expressed his readiness to do so, and I was about to administer it presence of Bhugwan Laul, after confronting them, when, lamentable to relate, he again changed his story, and, as shown in accompaniment No. 18, stated that Bhugwan Laul's version of it was the correct one, that he was now ready to swear to his, and that he had before told a deliberate falsehood, in order that his statement might agree with what he then understood to be Bhugwan Laul's. I could not help feeling that administering an oath under such circumstances would have been almost abetting

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

perjury, and therefore refrained from doing so: but before dismissing the parties, told both of them, that after such contradictory statements nothing short of the production of the accounts regarding the payment of the 1,199 rupees could clear up the matter.

6. Both of them have declared from the first that they have no accounts of this transaction; and Anuntjee explains his having none, by stating that he paid the money from his private store, in his own house at Joonaghur, of which he has no account whatever. It is difficult to believe this; and I have waited till now in the hope that he might be induced by those about him to produce some account to prove the truth of his first statement; but he persists in denying that he has any, and declares that it is not customary among people of his caste to keep any account of their private hoards. It is useless therefore longer to delay this report; and as Anuntjee, notwithstanding what I fear must be considered his most wilful falsehood, persists in asserting the fact that the money paid at the time of junooe was from the Rajcote Durbar, and supports it by the circumstance of its being entered in the account books of the Junaghur shop, whereas there is no entry in them regarding the repayment of the 1,199 rupees, Government will probably consider this item also as fully proved against Bhugwan Laul.

7. Besides the alterations in the books of the Rajcote Durbar and Anuntjee's shops here, which were alluded to in my letter of the 18th ultimo, and copies of which are given in the Appendix, as far as they relate to the present case, the books of Anuntjee's Joonaghur shop have also been altered, as shown in Appendix (C.), with regard to the item of 500 coorees given on account of wastoo, so as to make it appear that the money was paid to his brother, Umrit Laul. Before these books were produced, however, both he and Bhugwan Laul had admitted this item, and he at once confessed having had the alteration made, and explained that it had been done a short time before, to endeavour to conceal the payment of the money to Bhugwan Laul. It is therefore most improbable that the other item of 500 coorees for the junooe should have been taken from the Rajcote Durbar, and appropriated by Anuntjee himself; and there is the direct evidence of Bhugwan Laul's own memorandum (No. 12) and Anuntjee's Joonaghur accounts, an extract from which is given in Appendix (D.), that he received 500 corees from the Joonaghur shop, about the time of the Junooee, and the further proof that this sum, and another of 200 coorees more, were a few months afterwards debited to Anuntjee's own account, and credited to Bhugwan Laul in the same account books, an extract of which is given in Appendix (E.) No alteration has been made in either of these entries, the purpose for which, or on whose account, the payment was made, having been mentioned in them.

8. The interchange of presents between our native establishment and the chiefs and karbharees of the province, on occasions of religious or family ceremonies, would never, of course, have been permitted by any officer in charge of this Agency, had it been known; and the prohibition which was published last year had, I imagine, solely in view the interchange of presents on such occasions between different members of the establisnment, including perhaps their relations and caste-fellows in the service of the native chiefs. The excuse therefore given by Bhugwan Laul for accepting the first present, the amount of which he must have been well aware he owed to his official position alone, is, I think, altogether unsatisfactory; but as there appears to be no doubt that the practice must have been exceedingly common before his appointment as native agent, Government might possibly have overlooked this part of his offence with some punishment short of dismissal, in consideration of his former able and zealous services. It is impossible, however, for me to offer any extenuation, even for the acceptance of the present on the occasion of the junoee, so soon after the prohibition by Government of the receipt of any presents whatever; and the efforts that have been made to disprove this part of the accusation against him, sufficiently show that both Bhugwan Laul and his friends must have been well aware of the consequences such an act was likely to involve. I can only therefore beg that if Government considers the proof on this point inadequate to convict him of having taken the money, knowing from whence it came, he should be allowed the full benefit of the doubt.

9. I regret

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

9. I regret more than I can express the part which Anuntjee Amurchund has taken in this transaction. He had before felt the weight of the displeasure of Government for being slightly mixed up with the Joonaghur bribery case which occurred in 1835, and had to all appearance gained the greatest benefit from the lesson. Although originally only one of four in the Joonaghur council of administration, his general ability, and great influence with the young nuwab, have for years past given him the entire control of Joonaghur affairs, and he has conducted them with a degree of energy and general attention to the wishes of Government that entitle him to the greatest credit. I have frequently advised him to give up the management of Rajcote and his connexion with Paulitana affairs, both of which he probably owes in a great measure to his intimacy and supposed influence with the native agent, and to confine his attention entirely to Joonaghur, where there is ample employment for the most active and able manager; but he has obviously been averse to do this, doubting whether he should be able to maintain his position at Joonaghur as the young nuwab grew older. I intended, however, in consequence of his present misconduct in assisting in the misappropriation of the Rajcote resources, during the minority of the young thakoor, to have recommended that the durbar should be required to discard him entirely from all connexion with the affairs of the talooka, and it would, I consider, be a good addition to the punishment to make him refund the amount misappropriated, which might be credited to the Infanticide Fund, if it is thought advisable to make the young chief suffer for the fault of his mother in being a party to the disbursement, Anuntjee being of course told, at the same time, that he might recover the money from the party to whom he had so improperly given it.

10. After his repeated and determined falsehoods, however, which have amounted to an absolute mockery of justice, I am doubtful whether his own misdeeds, and the example which should in such cases be made to others, do not call for the severest notice we can take of such conduct, which would, I consider, be to refuse to receive him again as the karbharee or agent of any chief in the province. I cannot conceal from myself that his being received again with the distinction which has always been accorded to him as Joonaghur Karbharee, must necessarily have a very bad effect, but an intermediate punishment, and perhaps a sufficient one may be awarded in the present case, by insisting on his giving up all connexion with any of the other talookas, except Joonaghur, where the young nuwab is still most anxious to retain his services, and by depriving him at least for a time of any special mark of attention when he visits the Political Agent. As the nawab has till lately been in his minority, and we are therefore in a manner responsible if any similar misappropriations of the Joonaghur revenues have been made during Anuntjee's administration, I would further suggest, in this case, that we should exact a bond from him in the name of the nuwab, to pay five-fold in the event of any such presents having been made by him on the part of Joonaghur. Nothing, I fear, is more probable than that they should have been, and as he would be well aware that such a document, in the possession of the nuwab, would be likely enough to be acted upon hereafter, he would probably take the precaution before giving it of requiring some security for the repayment of any sums he might have squandered in this way, and nothing in my humble judgment, in the present state of the native mind, will go so far to check the prevalence of bribery and corruption in our native establishments, as any uncertainty we can introduce with regard to the retention of the plunder.

11. It is to be feared, however, that money has so long been lavishly expended by the chiefs of this province to gain even comparatively trifling objects, and cases of great importance will of course occasionally occur, that I am humbly of opinion that we cannot be too careful in the adoption of any measures that offer, to check the impression that this may be done with any reasonable hope of an adequate advantage; and I would therefore respectfully recommend, in the event of any change taking place in the native establishment in consequence of the case now reported, that the situation and salary of the native agent should be divided into two; viz., a dufturdar as the native head of the establishment, on 200 Company's rupees per mensem, and a sheristedar on the remainder of the salary, which, including what is paid for the superintendence of the Mohsullee department, would amount to nearly 100 rupees

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

a month. The native agent being the only person the Political Agent has to read letters and petitions to him, adds beyond measure to the influence he is supposed to possess; and he might be employed on much more useful and important duty, which the Agent himself really has not time to get through without further native assistance, were there a qualified sheristedar to read and endorse the letters and petitions; and no measure which I can think of would, in my humble judgment, tend more to check the prevalence of bribery in this province.

12. I may here mention in support of the recommendation contained in the foregoing para., that a case is now being investigated, and will hereafter be reported, in which the young son of the Kattie chief of Lusdhun, when he quarrelled with his father a few years ago and came into Rajcote, gave away the sum of 2,400 rupees for the purpose of ensuring the good offices of our native establishment, although it is doubtful whether any portion of it was retained by any of them; and there are likewise one or two other cases which will require to be thoroughly investigated, in which much larger sums have been carried away from different talookas ostensibly for the same purpose, although there is not as yet any proof whatever of what became of any part of the money in either case.

I have, &c.

Katterwar Political Agency,
Rajcote, 15 September 1847.

(signed) *W. Lang*,
Political Agent.

INDEX.

Nos.

1. Deposition of Bugwanlal, native agent; denies having received the sum as entered in the Rajkote Durbar books - - - p. 762
2. Ditto of Jeena Poonja Kowass, of the Rajkote Durbar, acknowledges having about that time carried a letter to Anutjee - - p. 763
3. Ditto Hurree Pursaud, Goomashta in the service of the Rajkote Durbar, who keeps the Rajkote Awuro, and in whose writing the korees are entered as paid to the Raja Shree, p. 763
4. Ditto Joonagee Dessuljee, servant of Rajkote, accompanied witness No. 2 to Joonaghur, p. 764
5. Ditto Baee Naneeba, mother of the thakoor of Rajkote, acknowledges the letter having been sent; but states that the money for the Wastoo was not given, and that the Jinoee was at Umrutlal's - - - - p. 764
6. Ditto of Anutjee Umurchund, karbaree of Rajkote Durbar, denies all knowledge of the 1,000 koree being given to Bugwan Lal, and otherwise accounting for the entries in the books - - - - - - p. 765
7. Ditto of Suda Sunker Goomashta, keeper of Anutjee's Rajkote books; attempts to explain the non-adjustment of one of the above items said to be omitted by mistake - p. 767
8. Ditto of Wunarsee Goolabraee, regarding his Jinoee, attempting to explain the 500 korees for Jinoee as having been given to Anutjee on his account - - - - - p. 768
9. Petition of Bugwan Lal; explains, after making inquiries at his house, about the receiving of presents from certain people on the occasion of Wastoo and Jinoo, and stating that he understood the sum said to be given for the latter, to be in part payment of 1,199 rupees, which were given to Anutjee at Rajkote, to be taken to Joonaghur - - - p. 769
10. Yadee, from Anutjee Umurchund, states that he gave 500 korees for the Wastoo, and 500 for the Jinoo to Bugwanlal - - p. 769
11. Deposition of Anutjee Umurchund on his yadee No. 10, and confronted with Bugwan Lal - - - - - - - p. 770
12. Extract from Bugwan Lal's book - p. 770
13. Deposition of Khandass Oodeychund, brother-in-law of Bhugwan Lal, states that he received 500 korees from Anutjee, to be given to Bugwan Lal for Wastoo - - p. 770
14. Ditto of Anutjee Umurchund confesses erasure in his Joonaghur books, done by his order, and was confronted with Bugwan Lal, p. 770
15. Ditto of Bugwan Lal continued, regarding the receipt of the 1,199 rupees, and stating that it was repaid to him at Joonaghur in korees p. 771
16. Ditto of Anutjee Umurchund continued, on the subject of this repayment, and asserting that it was certainly made in rupees - p. 772
17. Ditto of Khandass contradicts statement of Anutjee regarding the rupees said to have been given to him - - - - p. 773
18. Cross-examination of Anutjee Umurchund in presence of Bugwan Lal, when he asserts that he repaid the money at Joonaghur in korees, p. 774

Extracts from Chopras.

(signed) *William Lang*,
Political Agent.

No. 1.

Bugwan Lal Mudunjee, Hindoo, Nagur Wur Nuggura, Native Agent, aged about 37 years, inhabitant of Joonaghur, states before Lieutenant J. Black, Acting Second Assistant Political Agent:

Question. Did you go to Joonaghur last year, and, if so, at what time?—*Answer.* Last year I went, about the month Chytur, to Joonaghur, on account of my son's jinoee; at that time Mr. Malet was here.

At that time where was Goolabraee, and did his son receive the jinoee then or not?—Goolabraee was here at that time, and there was no jinoee given to his son.

Do you know Kowasses Jeena and Joona of the Raj Kote Durbar?—No; I do not.

Was Anutjee at Joonaghur at the time you were there?—Yes, he was at Joonaghur.

Did you at that time receive from Anutjee, or any other person, korees or rupees; and if so, state from whom and on whose account?—At that time I did not receive from Anutjee, or

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

or any other person, korees or rupees; but I may have received from my own caste, according to our custom, from 10 to 50 koress; more than this I did not receive. From a relative or connexion I may have received more; and of this I informed Mr. Malet.

The awura of the Durbar of Rajkote for St. 1902* was here shown to Bugwanlal, and the following questions asked:

Who is meant by the Raja Shree?—I do not know.

Who will know about it?—The person who gave it and the person who wrote it, and that entry is of a jinoee and wastoo; of this I know nothing: and on the debit side of the book it is written, "that the balance for St. 1901 was omitted to be written, therefore to be credited to Anutjee Amurchund," and these korees were credited last year, and my jinoee and wastoo were held in St. 1902; then how does it appear that it is debited in the year before?

St. 1903, Assarwud 4, (July 31). (signed) *Bugwanlal Mudunjee.*

* *Vide* Appendix, Exhibit (A.)

No. 2.

Jeena Poonja, Hindoo, Rapjoot Jadow Kowass, aged about 30 years, inhabitant of Dhoora, but at present in the service of Baee Shree Naneebo, states before Lieutenant J. Black, Acting Second Assistant Political Agent:

Q. Did you go to Joonaghur last year?—*A.* I and Joonajee went last year with a letter from the Rajkote Dubar to Anutjee Amurchund at Joonaghur, and Jamba was at Joonaghur; she had left Joonaghur, and had alighted at Goondul, and when we passed through on our way to Joonaghur she was at Gundul; but we did not on that occasion see the Baee.

What did you do at Joonaghur for Anutjee?—I gave the letter to Anutjee and remained three days.

Did you go to any other person's house at Joonaghur?—No, I did not.

Did you carry anything besides the letter?—No; I carried only the letter; Anutjee was at prayer, and I gave it into his hand,

Was Joonajee present at the time?—I do not know whether he was present or with the horse.

In what month did you go?—After the Hoolee; so much I know.

Who gave you the Durbar letter?—Naneeba gave me with her own hands two letters.

Was Joonajee present at the time?—No, he was not.

Was any one present?—Kengajee was, but no others.

Is it customary when the Durbar send letters to Anutjee to send a kowass or a cassid?—Kowasses sometimes go, and cassids also, as well as suwars go; nothing is fixed regarding this.

Did Anutjee send an answer with you?—Yes, and I gave it to Baee Naneeba.

When you went to Joonaghur, was Bugwanlal there, or at Rajkote?—I do not exactly recollect where he was.

Did you accompany Baee Naneeba on the occasion of her visiting Goolabraee's house at the time of the mundul?—No, I did not.

Did you ever before or after go to Joonaghur?—During the life of Thakoor Soorajee I once went to Gunade, and I then passed near to Joonaghur, but did not go to Joonaghur; and I have not been (since the occasion first referred to).

31 July 1847. (signed) *Jeena Poonja.*

No. 3.

Hurree Pursaud Umbaram, Hindoo, Nagur War Nuggra, aged about 46 years, in the service of the Rajkote Durbar, inhabitant of Joonaghur, states before Lieutenant Black, Acting Second Assistant Political Agent:

Question. In the Durbar Awuro for Sumvut 1902, there are two entries of 500 korees each, on the debtor side of the account; are these entries written by you, or how?—*Answer.* Yes; the awura chopera is in my writing.

How is the written?—In that chopra, at page 75, on the credit side, are written two sums, amounting to 1,000 korees given to Raja Shree; but I do not know who the Raja Shree is, for this reason, that the nondwaee (daily account) book of the Durbar is kept separately in it, the whole of the credit and debit of the jham kata are entered, and as I am employed in the form of Surdhar, I come to Rajkote only occasionally when I transcribe the entries from the nondwaee into my awuro; in this manner I copied the entries in question from the nondwaee into the awuro.

On examining the mandwaee on the credit side, Anutjee Amurchund is credited with 1,000 korees for a serpao to him, and in the awuro it is written in full, giving the particulars; how is this?—When I transcribed the entry from the nondwaee into the awuro, the entry stood as it now does in the awuro, but now I know not whether the book has been altered or not.

On showing the Durbar Chopra, called the awuro for Sumvut 1902, page 75, and ordering Hurree Pursaud to read the entries, making up the sum of korees 2,081. 7., he read as follows; "of this sum there one entry of 500 korees on the occasion of giving the ginoee that day given through Anutjee Baee."

Sumvut 1903, Anurwud 7th.
(Monday, 2 August 1847.) (signed) *Hurree Pursand Umbaram.*

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 4.

Joonatjee Desuljee, Hindoo, Rajpoot Jhala, servant of the Rajkote Durbar, aged about 49 years, inhabitant of Rajkote, states before Lieutenant Black, Acting Second Assistant Political Agent:

Question. WHERE have you now come from?—*Answer.* I returned from Joonaghur yesterday.

When did you go to Joonaghur, and for what purpose?—About six days ago Kanjee Turwaree, who is a frequenter of the Durbar, came to me and told me to go to Joonaghur, to Anutjee Bhaee, and tell him to come here, the Durbar calls him. After this I went to Joonaghur, and I told Anutjee Bhaee that the Sirkar (Political Agent) has confined Lalljee Parek, and the Jam of Nuggur has been encroaching on the Peepria village boundaries, and that on this account that the Durbar called him, then Anutjee Bhaee went to ask the permission of the Nuwab, but he refused it, and he told me that he had not obtained leave, and ordered me to go away; I remained that day and next day; I went to Anutjee Bhaee and asked him whether he intended coming, or whether he had any letter to send; to this he replied, "Gooramer is near at hand, and the Nuwab consequently will not give me leave, but should he do so, I shall follow you; and there are no letters for you;" then I left on horseback, and arrived at Veerpoor, where I remained a night.

Did you last year go to Joonaghur, and if so, for what purpose; and who sent you, and to whom did you go, and what did you carry with you?—Yes, I went; the Durbar gave me a letter for Anutjee Bhaee, and sent me and Jeena Kowass; we both went.

What did you do at Joonaghur?—I did nothing but take my food, and sit there for two days, and upon being dismissed, I returned.

To whom did Anutjee give the letter which you took to Joonaghur?—Jeena gave the letter when I was with the horses.

Did you carry anything beside the letter?—No; and the letter was given to Jeena, and I was sent with him.

In what month did you go?—I do not recollect; I cannot read or write.

Did you go to any other person's house at Joonaghur besides Anutjee?—No, I did not; I did not even go out to water the horses.

Did Anutjee not give you any answer to the letter you carried to him?—He did not give me any letter; but whether he gave one to Jeena I do not know.

Is it customary for you to go with letters, or is it the custom to send cossids?—It is the duty of a cossid; but as I was sent, I am a servant, how could I refuse to go. I must go where I am ordered.

When you went to Joonaghur was Bugwanlal there, or at Rajkote?—I do not know.

Who received the letter from the Durbar, and who gave it?—Jeena received the letter, and a sepahee came and told me to go with Jeena, and I went.

Is it customary to send you with the kowass, or were you sent on account of the letter, or how?—There is no fixed rule; I am obliged to go with whomsoever they may send me, be he a kowass, bunya, or other.

(Sumvut 1903, Assarwud 6th. Monday, 2 August 1847.) (signed) *Jhala Joonajee.*

No. 5.

Baee Naneeba, mother of Meramunjee, the Thakoor of Rajkote, states to Purtab Raee Fujdaree, Shiristadar:

Question. INFORM me what you know about the 1,000 korees?—*Answer.* When the wastoo of Bugwanlal's house at Joonaghur took place, I sent a letter to Anutjee, my kamdar, ordering him to give to Bugwanlal, if necessary, in the name of the Durbar, 500 korees, and informing him that the amount would appear at his credit with the Durbar. A letter was written to this effect, and sent by Jhola Joonajee and Kowass Jeena; these two men went and delivered the letter, and after a day or two they returned. Baee Jamba had gone to Joonaghur, and she and her followers were entertained as guests by Ummrutlal for 28 days, and on her leaving, he made presents to all her people; and one day, when Umrultal was sitting with the Baee, some one said that Umrutlal had been put to a great expense. To this Umrutlal said, I am always spending money; for example, my nephew, the son of Wunarsee, is about to receive the jinoee; on this account I shall have to expend, as mosala, the sum of 1,000, or 1,500 korees; then the Baee said, "Your nephew is my nephew, I shall give, as mosala, 500 korees, and when I go to Rajkote I shall put that sum to your credit;" thus she told him before coming here, and on her arrival she told me of this; I accordingly placed 500 korees at Anutjee's credit, and afterwards Anutjee came here, and just as he was leaving again he said to me, "You wrote to me about giving Bugwanlal 500 korees at the wastoo; but I did not give them, therefore, if you have credited me with that sum, when you adjust the accounts, you can write it as not given." Saying this, he went away, but as no adjustment of the accounts has yet taken place, nothing has been written about this.

If

If Baee Jamba gave to Umrutlal 500 korees, why should it be credited to Anutjee?—As Anutjee has an account with us, it is entered to his credit. Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Did Anutjee tell you this personally, or through another party?—He told me, when he had prepared to go, and came to take leave of me.

If Anutjee told you this, did you tell any one to make the necessary entry in the books?—I did not at that time tell any one I intended to do so, when the accounts would be made up; but no adjustment has since taken place, and nothing remains unknown to me about the accounts, when they are being adjusted.

(signed) *Baee Naneeba.*

Sumvut 1903, Asarwud 15th,
(Thursday, 10 August 1847.)

No. 6.

Anutjee Amurchund, Hindoo, Nagur War Nuggra, aged about 38 years, Karbaree, inhabitant of Joonaghur, Karbaree of Rajkote, states before Lieutenant Black, Acting Second Assistant Political Agent.

Question. If you gave anything to Bugwan Lal at the wastoo, or jinoee, state what it was?—*Answer.* Last year, before Captain Lang's arrival in this province, Bugwan Lal's son received his jinoee; and about five or seven months before that event, the wastoo took place at Bugwan Lal's house, and in consequence the durbar sent me a letter from my goomashta, requesting me to send 500 korees to Bugwan Lal's wastoo; but as Bugwan Lal did not come to Joonaghur, the present was not made to him, and when I returned to Rajkote, I told the baee that the money had not been used. The above-mentioned letter was brought to me by Jeena Kowass.

If you told the baee that the money had not been used, how is it that it is debited to the durbar?—When the letter was sent to me, it had been entered, I suppose, and I afterwards informed the baee that I had not used the money afterwards; it remains with the goomashta to credit; I do not know about the books.

In the durbar awuro, for Sumvut 1902, at page 75, occurs an entry of 500 korees for jinoee, and the corresponding credit and debit; examine and read that entry, and state how it is?—In that chopra, 500 korees are placed at my credit by the durbar, and it is written as follows: "At the time the jionee was given, on that occasion was given, or come through, Anutjee." Thus I read it; and in this page is written, with reference to the above sum, 450 korees to Raja Shree Anutjee Amurchund's house; for wastoo, by letter addressed to you. Of this sum, 400 from the durbar, and 50 from the uncle of the thakoor; thus it is written, but there was no wastoo; and from my finding this entry, I have no confidence in the book. And there is an entry of 500 rupees for jinoee; of this I know nothing, and I never before to-day saw that chopra. *Vide* Appendix Exhibit (A.)

When did you know that that sum was at your credit?—When I saw the book for the first time to-day, and not till then.

When did you tell the baee that the korees had not been given for the wastoo?—Last year, about the month Wyshak or Jeth, after I came from Joonaghur; but I cannot for certain say when.

Did your mentioning this to the baee take place previous to Bugwan Lal's son's jinoee, or afterwards?—After the jinoee, I told her.

When you mentioned this to the baee, was any one present?—I do not recollect.

(signed) *Anutjee Amurchund.*

10 August 1847.

Continued before Major Lang, Political Agent.

The above deposition being read over to witness, he stated it to be correct.

Q. Is there any reason for the entries of the jinoee and wastoo being anonymous?—*A.* The writer will know.

Did you tell your gomashta about crediting the durbar again with the 500 rupees for wastoo?—No, I told no one but the baee.

Did you tell the baee yourself, or through another party?—I told her myself.

Does Lalljee Parek, the durbar dufturee,* know about this?—Neither my dufturee, nor the dufturee of the durbar know about this. * Book-keeper.

This happened about 15 months ago; how is it the durbar has not been credited with that sum?—It had laid over, being forgotten.

Your goomasta says you ordered him to credit that sum, but that no adjustment of accounts had taken place; how is this?—I may have been talking about it at home, and perhaps he may have heard it, and says so in consequence; but I did not order him, and I did not tell the durbar through him.

How were these korees taken to Joonaghur?—Hard cash was not sent; the durbar sent a requisition upon me to Joonaghur.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Have you got that letter?—No; I tore it up.

Is it your custom to tear up papers relating to such sums of money as this?—I tore it to prevent its going into the hands of another party.

Do you recollect what was written in that letter, and what the date of it was?—It was written in that letter, 500 korees to be given to the bhaee as a present, at the wustoo of Bugwanlal; and it was written about that time, before or after. I remained a long time at Joonaghur, and came here in the month of Mah, or Phagun; it was written before that event.

Should the durbar write an order on you, would it enter the credit and debit of amount without hearing from you, or would your gomashta at Rajkote do so?—The entries would be made on the letter being written here.

Did you say anything to Bugwan Lal about these korees?—Bugwan Lal did not come to Joonaghur to the wastoo, and I said nothing to Bugwan Lal about the korees.

This event (the wastoo) took place before Mah or Phagun, and you must have told the durbar about Wyshak that the korees had not been used; then how do you account for the delay in informing the durbar?—I told it when I recollected it; but I do not go to the durbar every day; I go about once in eight or ten days.

When the durbar wrote to you to give Bugwan Lal 500 korees, why did you not tell Bugwan Lal, or some one of his house?—Bugwan Lal did not come there, and it is not customary for us to go where women are; on this account I did not tell any one, and afterwards, when I came to Rajcote, Mr. Malet has given an order on the subject of taking and giving presents. On this account I did not tell him.

To what transactions did Mr. Malet's order refer?—I heard, when I arrived here, that Mr. Malet had prohibited the giving and receiving of wudawa (presents at ceremonies) or sirpao (presents made as marks of friendship).

Before that order was published, was it customary among the Government servants to take or give presents?—It must have been so; but how could I know. I heard of the prohibition, then, for the first time.

At that time an order was issued prohibiting Government karkoons and other servants from taking or giving presents to each other, but was there no order previous to that prohibiting the giving to or taking presents from talookdars?—How can I know whether there was or not.

Did you advise the baee in this matter, concerning the peramunee (presents), or did you write to her?—No, I did not.

But a baee is not generally well acquainted with these customs; did she do this of her own accord?—She did not consult me in the matter, but she may have spoken about it to Jamba (the grandmother of Thakoor Meraminjee), or Lalljee Parek, or Oomed Singh, or others; if so, they must know.

The wastoo at Bugwanlal's house took place about the commencement of St. 1902, and the entry debiting that sum appears as part of a balance amounting to 1,000 korees omitted to be entered in the accounts for St. 1901; do you know any reason for this?—The writer must know.

Your goomasta says that these korees are credited here to your Joonaghur shop; then in your Joonaghur books will there be a corresponding debit to your Rajkote shop?—I do not recollect that any entry was made at Joonaghur of this transaction.

You and Jeena Kemjee are partners in a shop in Rajkote, and you have a shop in Joonaghur either on your own account or in partnership. Suppose that the Rajkote shop credit the Joonaghur shop with a sum of money, is it the custom of sowcars, or not, to enter that sum in the books of the shop at Joonaghur?—When one merchant writes to another, it is certainly customary to do so; but as the durbar wrote to me, there was no reason why it should be entered there.

From what your goomashta at Rajkote says, it has been credited to Joonaghur; what have you got to say to that?—If that be the case, then it must have been entered at Joonaghur.

It appears that the Joonaghur shop is credited with 500 korees for jinoee; has that sum been entered in the books of the shop at Joonaghur?—I never even heard of these korees.

These korees are entered in the durbar book, and your own book, as korees for jinoee, paid through you, and your goomashta states plainly that these korees were entered according to your orders; how is this?—I know nothing about these korees being given to Bugwanlal.

Do you know whether they were given to any other person?—Wunarsee's two sons, who are my nephews, received mosala from Umrutlal's house; and Wunarsee is an old inhabitant of Rajkote, and a servant of the durbar, and he has no brother-in-law, and his wife is my father's maternal uncle's daughter. On this account we gave a mosala in the name of us both, and I spoke to Baee Jamba about giving us assistance; and as Wunarsee's wife has no brother, and I have no sister, on this account we gave a mosala, and of this Baee Jamba gave about 500 or 400 korees; and the durbar wrote to me requesting me to give at Ramjee Mehta's marriage this year 100 or 200 korees, but I did not do so. On this subject the durbar gave me a written order; and regarding the korees for the jinoee, Naneeba knows about them also.

In the chopra, only Raja Shree is written; what is the cause of that?—The writer may, through laziness, have omitted it, or if the name has occurred frequently, it is also customary in that case to omit it; and also if it should be the intention to conceal the name, it is customary in that case also; the writer knows the reason.

Mr.

Mr. Malet's shera, dated 3d March 1846, on receipt of the Government order, dated 25th February 1846, prohibiting the receipt of presents, was here read, and a copy entered among the proceedings.

(signed) *Anutjee Amerchund.*

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

St. 1903, Assarwud 15th.
(Tuesday, 10 August 1847.)

No. 7.

Suda Shunker Moolshunker, Hindoo, Nagur Wur Nuggur; profession, Goomashta in the service of Anutjee Amurchund; aged about 25 years, inhabitant of Mangrole, states before Lieutenant J. Black, Acting Second Political Agent.

Question. In Anutjee Amerchund's Rajkote chopra for St. 1902, an entry appears in the account with the Rajkote durbar; who wrote it, and by whose order was it written?—*Answer.* When I was making out the accounts, Lalljee Parek told me that he had written a letter for 500 korees to Anutjee, and 500 for the nephew of Anutjee, who is the son of Wunarsee, for his jinoee. He ordered me to credit in this manner 1,000 korees, and I wrote that sum in the thakoor's account; and when Anutjee came from Joonaghur, I said to him, "Lalljee Parek is giving you credit for 1,000 rupees." On this he said, "I have not disbursed that money, therefore credit that sum again to the durbar; I now tell you, and I shall also inform the durbar;" and after this, up to present time, the accounts with the durbar not having been adjusted, I have not credited that sum.

When did Anutjee tell you to give the durbar credit again for these korees?—Last year; I do not recollect the month or day, but it was at the time he was leaving for Joonaghur.

On what occasion?—It was either Shrawun or Chytur, I do not exactly remember which, but he certainly told me.

If he did tell you, and you did not enter it in your awuro, is it not customary to enter it in your daily account-book, or how long would you trust to your memory?—I have not, up to this date, entered it; and, as for the custom, shopkeepers know about that. I did not write it.

You write Anutjee and Jeena Kanjee's account; how many such entries have you not entered, trusting in this way to your memory?—I have only committed to memory that one entry, and no more; he told me before going away, and from that circumstance I recollect.

Show me up to what date the durbar and Anutjee's accounts are brought up?—The accounts were written up, and a balance struck last Shrawun or Badurwa. It will be written in the account.

You say he told you, in Shrawun or Chytur, to credit 500 korees, and at page 102 of the durbar book for 1902, Anutjee's account is made up to Badurwa Shood 2d, and he is credited with his salary, viz., 2,700 korees; how is it that the 500 korees were not credited to the durbar?—The accounts may have been made out some months before Badurwa Shood 2d, and this sum for his salary credited some months before Badurwa Shood 2d; and I recollect that the accounts for Sumvut 1902 were made up in Assar.

After that, in the books of Anutjee in account with the durbar in 1903, entries of debit and credit appear; how is it you omitted to write the 500 korees?—Such items as those committed to memory would be entered at the adjustment of accounts. I thought of entering this at the time the adjustment would take place, and therefore did not enter it. Such entries as bajree, or money orders, on a Parek, are written at the time; but other sums which may have been omitted would be written at the time of adjusting the accounts.

How is it that that particular item has been omitted to be entered for 1½ years, and that no other sums have been omitted?—In the same manner that Wukeel Rewa Shunker's and Anutjee Bhace's allowances have not been entered, this has not been entered; besides these, no other sums have been omitted to be entered, and at the time of writing the accounts, anything that may have been omitted to be written would be entered.

What year's allowances have not been entered?—The allowances from Badurwa last remain to be entered; but the credit might be made two or three months before Badurwa, and the money would be counted over to them in Badurwa. As payment for the services of Rewashunkur, we give him a piece of ground and a well from one of our farms; on this account the durbar owes from St. 1903 the sum of 125 korees. This has been omitted to be entered, and in like manner the 500 korees have also been omitted to be entered.

Have any other sums been omitted to be entered for St. 1902?—No other sum except the above-mentioned has, to my knowledge, been omitted to be entered.

You say the 500 korees were given at the jinoee of Wunarsee's son; why, then, was it entered as given to the Raja Shree; is Wunarsee called Raja Shree?—No, Wunarsee is not called Raja Shree; it is Umrutlal we call Raja Shree.

What relationship is there between Umrutlal and Wunarsee?—The son of Wunarsee is Umrutlal's nephew (sister's son); on this account the durbar assisted him.

What relation is Wunarsee to Umrutlal?—I believe that Umrutlal's paternal uncle's daughter was married to Wunarsee.

In that account it is plainly written, 450 korees to Raja Shree Umrutlal for a wustoo; then what is the reason for writing in the above entry only Raja Shree?—His name appearing once for 450 korees, it is unnecessary again to write it; and as it is written "Paid through Anutjee," I did not enter the name.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Below the 500 korees which are entered in your book, as taken away, is written 500 korees in the name of the Raja Shree; why did you not enter Amrutlal's name?—The sum of 450 korees to Umrutlal is entered in the durbar's chopra, and not in mine, and in my book these two entries of 500 korees each; and at the time of making out the account, Lalljee Parek said to me, "Write in the name of the Raja Shree 500 korees through Jeeno and Joona, and 500 korees through Anutjee." On this account I wrote it in the thakoor's account, and I afterwards asked Anutjee about the two entries, and he told me to credit again 500 korees, and to debit the other 500 korees as given to his nephew at the jinoee.

When did Wunarsee give his son the jinoee?—I think it was on Chytur Sood 6th, of St. 1902, but be pleased to ask Anutjee Bhaee.

Anutjee says he does not know about the jinoee; how is this?—He told me of the 500 korees for jinoee, and Anutjeee may know; but a person of his standing may forget.

In the Durbar chopra three entries occur, where the names of Anutjee, Umrutlal, and Madowraee are written as having received something for wastoo; then what is the reason of Wunarsee's son's name not being written?—I know nothing of the durbar books.

Do you know how the 500 korees for the wastoo afterwards returned, and the 500 korees for the jinoee were sent?—Anutjee has a shop in Junaghur, and I gave his shop there credit for the amount, and entered it in Thakoor Meeamunjee's account; and I do not know whether it has been entered in the books at Joonaghur or not.

(signed) *Sudashunker Moolshunkur.*

Sumvut 1903, Assarwud 15th,
(August 10.)

No. 8.

Wunarsee Goolabraee, Hindoo, Nagur Wur Nuggura Wishnoo; aged about 53 years; Mootsuddee in the service of Anutjee Karbaree, of Rajkote; inhabitant of Joonaghur, states before Lieutenant Black, Acting Second Assistant Political Agent.

Last year I gave my two sons jinoee, and Anutjee and Umrutlal gave them mosala, the particulars of which are as follows:

To the sons.—Two head dresses; one reto and one shelo cloths; two dotees, double; two jamba (long coats); two phenta (pieces of cloth of two borders); two muyta (silk dress worn at meals); two thalee (cooking pots, of composition); two metal tharee (drinking cups); two khurchee (spoons, brass); eight korees to each in cash; two pairs of shoes.

To myself.—One turban.

To the women of my house.—One silk dress; one silk petticoat; one kumpko (spencer).

To my father.—A pair of silk cloths.

To my brothers, Madow Rao and Bowandass.—Two pieces of silk cloth.

To my two brothers' wives.—Two chal, or gursaree; women's clothes.

To my son Wurujdass' wife.—One gursaree; women's clothes.

To my three sons who had formerly received the jinoee.—One and a half taus of silk cloth; half tau to each.

To my mother.—One silk saree.

To my daughter.—One petticoat, and one piece of red cloth.

To my brother's three daughters.—Three oma (red cloth).

To my priest.—One chal (woman's dress); two korees for a petticoat.

To myself, as their relation.—One chal (woman's dress).

To Runchorjee's mundar.—One chal (woman's dress); two korees.

Did any one give you any cash?—With the exception of what is above written I received nothing.

At the jinoee did any other person give you anything?—In dal* some relations and others may have given cash and sweetmeats; and, after the jinoee, Anutjeebhaee told me at Rajkote, that when he gave the mosala the Rajkote Durbar had borne part of the expenses to the extent of 500 korees.

* Return of favours.

When did he tell you this, and where was he when he told you?—Anutjee was at Rajkote when he told me; I do not recollect the month or day.

Did he tell you whether he had received hard cash, or merely a credit in account with the Durbar?—Anutjee said it had been placed to his credit, and that it was credited in Anutjee's account with the Durbar.

You are the goomashta of Anutjee; is that sum of 500 korees for your jinoee, given as assistance to Anutjee, credited to Anutjee in account with the Rajkote Durbar; and have you any book containing an account of receipts and disbursements?—If the Durbar gave the order, it will be entered in the Durbar accounts; and this must have been entered, and it is entered in Anutjee's book, in the Rajkote Durbar account; Fudasunkur keeps Anutjee's awuro. As I did not receive the korees, how could I enter it.

What relationship exists between you and Umrut Lal and Anutjee?—My father-in-law and Umrutlal's father were collateral connexions.

Sister.

Sister.
Umrutlal's grandmother.
|
Umurchund.
|
Umrutlal. Purboolal. Anutjee.

Brother.
Wife's grandfather Wujeeram.
|
Kewulram.
|
My wife.
|
My five sons; being
Wurujdass.
Rugoonathjee.
Jamuljee.
The two in question { Jesevunt Raee. Govind Raee.

What relationship do people call that which exists between you and Umrutlal and Anutjee?—There is no relationship, but my son is called Umrutlal's nephew.

When Anutjee told you (about the korees) who were present?—I do not recollect whether any one was present or not.

Sumvut 1903, Assarwud 15th. (signed) *Unnarsee Goolabraee.*
(10 August 1847.)

No. 9.

Petition from *Bugwan Lal Mudunjee* to Major *Lang*, Political Agent.

A. C.

I beg to represent that on the books of the Rajkote Durbar being sent for and examined by you, two entries were found in the anonymous name of Raja Shree; and on this subject, in answer to your interrogation, I gave a statement on the 31st July. Afterwards I made inquiries at my house, of which the following is the result:—1st. There is an entry of 500 korees for wastoo. The wastoo took place at Joonaghur in St. 1902, in the month of Magsur; I was not present at it, and Anutjee Umarchund sent a bill to the people of my house for the sum of about 400 or 500 korees. I do not recollect the exact sum, for the following reason: that the money was received when the wastoo was nearly finished, and my brother Brijlal's wife was seized with cholera, and on this account we were all thrown into great confusion. She died of the disease in eight or ten days. On this account they were all very much grieved; and consequently, through carelessness, the accounts were mislaid; and this took place prior to Mr. Malet's issuing the order (prohibiting it), and at such ceremonies it was customary to take and give presents to each other; it was not prohibited.

2. Five hundred korees are written for jinoee. At the time of the jinoee I was at Joonaghur. There is no order prohibiting us from receiving from and giving to our own caste; that sum was received from a person of my own caste; and I have shown you an account of all I received from my own caste, and also all I received in hard cash, and in that account the 500 korees are entered as received from Anutjee's shop. But I do not think that that entry has reference to wudawa,* for this reason: that when I went to Joonaghur, I gave to Anutjee, at Rajkote, 1,200 rupees or less, and of this I received from his shop at Joonaghur that money; and on account of the hurried manner in which I left Joonaghur, I did not make up my accounts with Anutjee. But on inquiring of Anutjee, if he says that these korees were not given on account of the above-mentioned sum of 1,200 rupees, and that they were given as a present, he knows best. A turban and a shela† were received from Anutjee as a present; and I, looking upon these articles as given to me by a man of my own caste, kept them, and whether he entered these in the Rajkote accounts as expenses or not, he knows.

* Present.

† Waist cloth.

(signed) *Bugwanlal Mudunjee.*

Rajkote, 13 August 1847.

No. 10.

Yadee from *Anutjee Umurchund*, in reply to the Two Questions of the Political Agent.

1. What did you give to Bugwan Lal on account of the Rajkote Durbar, when there was a wastoo at Bugwan Lal's house?—On 5th Magsurwud, St. 1902, there was a wastoo at Bugwan Lal's house. On that day at the house of Bugwan Lal, when the nom‡ was performed, I gave to Kandass to give to Bugwanlal's house 500 korees, and I debited the Rajkote Durbar with this.

‡ Sacrifice.

2. What did you give to Bugwan Lal on account of the Rajkote Durbar at the jinoee?—To this your question, I beg to reply: on the 6th Chyturšood of St. 1902, at the time of the putting on of the jinoee, I gave from my shop, on account of the Rajkote Durbar, 500 korees, under the name of a turban and shela, and debited it to the Durbar, and credited the amount to Bugwan Lal. This is my reply.

(signed) *Anutjee Umurchund.*

St. 1903, Shrawun Shood 8th (Thursday).

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 11.

Anutjee Umurchund, Karbaree, again examined before Lieut. Black, Acting Second Assistant Political Agent.

Q. You have written that you credited Bugwan Lal with 500 korees as paid to him by the Rajkote Durbar for the jinoee; what did you give on your own account, as one of his caste?—*A.* I do not recollect; and the private receipts and disbursements of our house are managed by Umrutlal. This is our custom.

When you gave Bugwanlal credit for that amount, what did you say to Bugwanlal that it was from, the durbar or yourself?—I think I told him when I gave it that it was from the Rajkote durbar; I gave it on the day of the jinoee, and I told Bugwanlal first, and then gave it.

Bugwanlal was here called and confronted, and the above statements read in presence of both.

Q. If you have got anything to say regarding what has just been read, state it?—*A.* What Anutjee has said he must have said after due consideration, therefore I have no reason to dispute it.

Bugwanlal here showed his private accounts of his house for St. 1902; in that book, on the credit side, appears an entry of 500 korees from the shop of Anutjee Amurchund; thus it is written. On questioning Bugwanlal, he said, "That sum I received from Anutjee, and it was a regular transaction, so I thought; but if Anutjee thinks that that money was given for another purpose, he knows."

Did you see the turban and shela which Anutjee gave to you on the occasion of the jinoee; and if so, of what colours were they?—I heard that Anutjee had given, on the occasion of the jinoee, a turban and shela; I did not see them; and a mundeel was also given. This the people of the house told me. It was red; I mean by turban, this mundul.

(signed) *Anutjee Umurchund.*
Bugwanlal Mudunjee.

St. 1903, Shrawun Shood 8th.
(Thursday, 19 August 1847.)

No. 12.

Extract from Bugwanlal's Memorandum Book of Household Expenses for St. 1902.

Cash account in korees.
500 korees received from Anutjee Amurchund's shop.

No. 13.

Kandass Oodeychund, Hindoo; Nagur Wurnuggura, Mehta; aged about 23 years; inhabitant of Joonaghur; at present in the service of the Political Agent as a Mosul, states before Lieutenant Black, Acting Second Assistant Political Agent.

Q. Were you at Joonaghur in St. 1902, upon the occasion of Bugwanlal's wastoo there?—*A.* Yes, I was.

What were you doing at Bugwanlal's house that day?—The Brahmins were offering sacrifice of grain, &c. and I was making myself useful in doing whatever was necessary.

* Presents.

On that occasion, if any wudawas* came, who received them?—Jeekar Mehta, who belongs to Bugwan Lal's house, received these things, and took a note of them.

† Sacrifice.

Did Anutjee Umurchund on that occasion, and that same day, give you anything?—Anutjee told me to go with him to his house at the time of the hom,† and I said, "At present we are occupied with the prayers, &c.; I cannot come." Next day, I myself went to Anutjee in the morning, and he gave me 500 korees, and said, "Give that to Bugwanlal's house;"‡ saying this, he gave the korees, and I gave them to Bugwanlal's wife, in her house. This is all I know.

‡ Used here for his wife.

Do you know anything about the koorees for jinoee?—I do not know anything about the jinoee korees, or anything connected with the jinoee.

(signed) *Kandass Oodeychund.*

St. 1803, Shrawun Shood 8th.
(Thursday, 19 August 1847.)

No. 14.

Anutjee Umurchund, Re-examined by Lieutenant J. Black, Acting Second Assistant Political Agent, on his books having arrived from Joonaghur.

Question. Show me the entries in your book relating to the korees given by you to Bugwanlal for wastoo and jinoee?—*Answer.* Anutjee here examined the book and replied: The entries at pages 54 and 58 of the awuro are relating to the wastoo, and that entry was erased by

Vide Appendix, Exhibit (C.)

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

by my goomashta Kessnoojee by my orders; for this reason, that Bugwanlal's name occurred, and Khandass Oodeychund's name was written; then it was erased, and (Khandass) Nehalchund was written.

With regard to the 500 korees for jinoee, how is it?—In that book, at page 267, Bugwanlal is debited with 700 korees; of this, 500, which are entered as given through Keekanee Gowreeshunkur, were for the jinoee.

Vide Appendix, Exhibit (D.)

On whose account did you give that money for jinoee?—I gave it on account of the Rajkote Durbar.

Vide Appendix, Exhibit (E.)

At page 398, an entry appears of a debit and credit to Bugwanlal for 700 korees. Explain the transaction, and what reason is there for the particulars not being written; in the other entries the particulars are written at full?—It must be a common transaction of a receipt and disbursement. I do not know anything about it, and at that time I was not in the town.

Bugwanlal was here confronted with Anutjee, and questioned, as follows:

Q. You are credited with 700 korees at page 398, and Anutjee is debited with it; explain that transaction?—On looking at the book, it appears that the shopkeeper, at page 267, has debited me with 700 in two sums of 500 and 200; that same sum has appeared at my credit, and Anutjee's debit, at page 398; this appears to me to be the explanation of it.

(signed) *Anutjee Umrutlal.*
Bugwanlal.

Rajkote, 26 August.

No. 15.

Continuation of No. 9.

Bugwanlal re-examined before Major W. Lang, Political Agent.

His former statement, No. 9, was read over in his presence, and the following questions asked:

Question. Of what currency were the rupees which you gave to Anutjee here, and in what currency did you afterwards receive them at Joonaghur, and did you receive korees or rupees?—*Answer.* I gave Anutjee Company's rupees, and I do not recollect that he paid me back in rupees; but I received korees, and I was paid back the amount in three or four instalments.

Did you receive the whole amount, or did a balance remain in hand?—I do not recollect that any balance remained in my favour, but Anutjee may have a demand against me for 5 or 25 korees.

Was the above-mentioned sum of 500 korees one of the items which made up the money repaid to you?—That sum and 200 korees from Anutjee's shop given to the vegetable sellers, amounting to 700 korees, were part of the money I received back from Anutjee.

You have said that you received back the money in three or four instalments; if these two consists of the above 500 korees and the 200 korees given to the vegetable seller, in what instalment did you take the balance?—These two sums were taken and credited by me on the same date; and as for the balance I do not recollect. Therefore, without being certain, I cannot say.

These two sums are regularly debited and credited in Anutjee's book, and in the same manner they are credited in your book, then how does it happen that the other sums are not credited?—When I went to Joonaghur, the day after my arrival, I sent two orders on Anutjee's shop for money to pay the vegetable seller and others, amounting to 700 korees, and I credited the amount in my book; and after this I ceased to transact business with the shop, and then I did not write any more orders on the shop, but received the money from Anutjee's private money; on this account I did not credit it.

How did you receive the money privately from Anutjee, by sending a note, or through any person?—I sent a person to bring the money; I did not write a note.

Whom did you send; do you recollect?—I was so much engaged with the jinoee that I do not recollect.

In whom would Anutjee have so much confidence as to give the money without a writing from you?—There are five or seven men of my house in whom he would repose confidence; but when I sent for the korees his men came along with them to give the money.

Do you recollect which of Anutjee's men came?—I was engaged in the ceremonies of the jinoee, I therefore do not recollect; but once or twice his mehta came; I do not recollect his name.

Have you and Anutjee any other transactions besides the 1,199 rupees?—At the time of the jinoee that was the only transaction between us.

How do you know the state of your account?—I keep no accounts, perhaps Anutjee has; by examining them you will know.

Did you keep an account of what you received from and paid to Anutjee, previous to the transactions of 1,199 rupees?—I used to transact business with the shop, therefore the account is in the shop.

Did you suppose that the above-mentioned transaction of 1,199 rupees was a private one, or with the firm?—I thought it was a transaction with the shop.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

As the rupees were converted in korees, did you come to any understanding with Anutjee as to the rate of exchange?—There was nothing said about the exchange.

Can you state what the amount of each instalment was which you received on account of the 1,199 rupees?—I cannot state with certainty; but, as far as I can recollect, one instalment consisted of 2,500 korees, and another of 600 korees; and the balance I do not recollect; I therefore cannot say.

Do you recollect, for certain, that on these three occasions korees were received by you?—Yes; I recollect certainly that korees were received, and not rupees.

(signed) *Bugwanlal Mudunjee.*

27 August 1847.

No. 16.

Anutjee Amerchund, Re-examined before Lieutenant J. Black, Acting Second Assistant Political Agent.

Q. Did Bugwan Lal give you any rupees at the time you were about to leave for Joonaghur; and if so, state how?—*A.* Last year, when Bugwan Lal and I had prepared to leave to go to Joonaghur for the jinoee, Bugwan Lal told me he had some rupees in cash to take to Joonaghur, and asked me for some men as a guard. On this I said, "Give me the rupees, and I will give you credit for them at Joonaghur." Afterwards, on the day we left Rajkote, Bugwan Lal sent the money through Mehta Koodurjee Nunderam to me, and I gave them to my goomashta here named, Sudashewrao, to pay into Jeena Kemjee's shop, and that night I and Bugwan Lal and others set out for Joonaghur, about two or three days after the jinoee. Bugwanlal received it back in two instalments; the amount of the first instalment I do not recollect, but I gave it into Bugwan Lal's hands. Bugwan Lal, I think, sent a message through my man, Khandass Dehalchund, about these rupees; on this account I myself went and delivered them at his own house. The rupees which he gave me were Company's rupees, and the second instalment was taken away, I think, by Bugwanlal's man, Khandass Oodeychund. I gave them to him, so far as I can recollect, but how many I cannot recollect; but I paid the whole amount, viz. 1,199 rupees, in two instalments.

What were you doing when Khandass Oodeychund came for the rupees?—I was sitting in the house; it was evening.

How long was it after you yourself gave Bugwanlal the rupees that Khandass came for the balance?—He came either the next day, or the day after that.

Where did you procure the rupees with which you paid him?—I gave him ready money from my house.

Have you got an account of the cash you have in your house?—I keep no private accounts, and I have no account of the cash in my house.

You say you paid the whole amount, viz., 1,199 rupees, in two instalments; but this appears doubtful; therefore how would you prove your having paid that sum?—Ask Bugwanlal whether he received these rupees or not.

Did Bugwanlal give you any receipt?—No, he gave me no receipt.

27 August 1847.

The above deposition was read over to deponent, and confirmed by him, in the presence of the Political Agent, and his examination continued.

Q. On asking Bugwanlal on the above-mentioned subject, he says he gave you Company's rupees at Rajkote; and that as a part of this sum he required the 500 korees which you say you gave him on account of the Rajkote Durbar, and that he received the balance in two or three instalments, and thinks that a balance of a few korees is against him; this is what Bugwan Lal says; then, without any accounts, how can you adjust the matter?—*A.* I have no accounts, and what Bugwan Lal wrote (said) is correct.

Bugwanlal says he has no accounts of this, but that you ought to (or must) have accounts?—If there were any account of this transaction it would be in the chopra.

Do you transact business in your house to the extent of thousands of rupees without keeping any accounts?—Whatever cash is taken from my house to the shop is entered in the books of the shop; and, as this sum was given from my house (without reference to the shop), why should there be any accounts?

If that is the case, why should these rupees be entered in the Rajkote accounts?—They are entered here because they were paid into a shop here by me; but had these rupees remained in my possession no entries of them would have been made.

Where did you again draw these rupees which you paid into the shop at Rajkote, so as to avoid having an entry of them?—I replied before; I took them from my private fund, therefore it was unnecessary to write it down.

Have you no accounts of your private funds?—No, I have not.

Did you take these rupees along with you from this?—No, I did not.

In Jeena Kanjee's shop this sum appears in the accounts of the firm of which you are a partner, at your own credit; how is this?—My share in that firm is but small, but there are large sums at the credit of my private account; at present I have in that shop about 8,000 or 10,000 rupees.

What

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

What coin is current in Joonaghur, are korees or rupees?—Deewan Sace korees are current.

Is the money which you hoard at home the current coin, or coins which are not current?—There were reals, korees, and rupees in my house, and must be now.

If there are several vessels full of different coins, is there no account of them?—No, there is not.

Were the rupees which you paid back to Bugwanlal, Company's, or Sicca rupees?—They certainly were Bombay* rupees.

* Company's.

Were so many Bombay rupees lying in your house, or did you get them exchanged anywhere?—They were in my house, and there will be at the present time Bombay rupees in my house; I have to give them when mohsuls are sent on the Nuwaub by the Sirkar.

Do you not keep an account of them if you have to give them to mohsuls?—When necessary the shopkeeper would take away the rupees, and credit me in the shop on this account; there is no private account kept.

Why did you not give the whole amount of rupees which, on account of the risk of transmission, were entered as a floating balance at once, when Khandass Nehobchund, your servant, brought the message from Bugwanlal?—At that time neither my family nor any others were in the house, and I gave all the rupees that were left out at the time, and the balance I paid next day, or the day after that, in full.

What did the first instalment consist of, and what did the second?—The amounts I do not recollect.

Then, without an account, how did you know what balance was owing?—What necessity would there be for looking at accounts when so small a space of time intervened.

Were the two sums of korees, 500 and 200, in all 700 korees, debited on account of the 1,199 rupees?—No, they were not.

Did you give the rupees first, or the korees?—He first took up these korees from the shop, and then the Rajkote Durbar sent the korees; we did not make any requisition on Bugwan Lal, but gave him credit for the amount.

When did Bugwan Lal take up the first instalment of korees?—He took it before giving the jinoee, and the rupees were given after the jinoee.

On whose account did Bugwan Lal take up these korees?—He borrowed the money from our shop.

Five hundred korees are entered as given by the Rajkote Durbar, how is the other sum of 200 korees to be accounted for?—My account is debited with the sum of 700 korees, and Bugwan Lal is credited; of this 500 korees were given by the Rajkote Durbar, and Bugwan Lal owes me 200 korees.

Bugwan Lal says you gave him a turban and shela (dress); were these without reference to these korees, or how?—The turban and shela were separate.

Did you tell Bugwan Lal about the 500 korees which were entered as presents from the Durbar?—It is customary at the time of giving the jinoee to mention it on this account at that time. I told Bugwan Lal that the Rajkote Durbar had given 500 korees.

When Bugwan Lal came to Joonaghur at the time of the jinoee, did he take at one time a sum of 2,500 korees, and at another time 600 korees, or thereabouts, from your shop or house?—No, he never received korees from my house or shop.

On examining your awuro book for St. 1902, Chyturshood 2d, an entry appears in Bugwan Lal's account, at page 267, of 700 korees; and afterwards it appears that at page 398, these korees are entered in the month Assarshood 13, and 500 korees must have been sent by the Rajkote Durbar at the time of the jinoee, then explain why the entry was made three months after?—The goomastha of the shop asked me about three months after, whether he should take the sum of 700 korees which Bugwan Lal owed. I replied no; debit me with that sum, and credit it to Bugwan Lal.

The Durbar sent 500 korees, then why should you credit 700 korees?—Bugwan Lal was not at home, then from whom could the goomastha demand the money; therefore I caused him to debit me with it.

Have you ever called upon Bugwan Lal for the balance of 200 rupees?—No, I have not.

After that, have you and Bugwan Lal adjusted your accounts?—No, we have not.

You say that the balance of rupees were taken away by Khandass Oodeychund, and he says he knows nothing about it; how is this?—At present that person named Khandass is in the service of Bugwan Lal. I have no resourse.

No. 17.

Kandass Oodeychund being here called, and confronted, was questioned on the above, to which he replied, "I know nothing about the matter."

Q. Will you take an oath to what you have just said?—*A.* Yes. I do not know anything about it, and that I am ready to swear to.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Question put to Anutjee Umurchund.

What have you to say to what Khandass states?—I sent the balance of the rupees by the hands of Khandass; there can be no mistake about that.

Anutjee, upon being asked whether he would take an oath on the Geeta, said, "I will take an oath as to that matter, and to all I have said."

27 August 1847. (signed) *Anutjee Umurchund.*

Khandass Examined.

Q. Did you at the time of Bugwanlal's jinoee, on one occasion, take from Anutjee's house 2,500 korees; and on another, 600 korees; or do you know that any one brought that sum from Anutjee's house or shop?—*A.* At Bugwan Lal's house, during the jinoee, relations and others used to come to feast, &c. On this occasion I was engaged in superintending the cooking, &c. I do not know anything about money having been brought.

27 August 1847. (signed) *Khandass Oodeychund.*

No. 18.

Bugwan Lall Mundunjee confronted and examined with *Anutjee Umurchund.*

Bugwan Lal here stated that he certainly received korees (not rupees).

Anutjee here stated, "I gave korees, as Bugwan Lal says."

Q. How many times did you give korees?—*A.* I gave the korees in two or three instalments.

What was the amount of the instalments?—I do not recollect the sums.

In all, how much did you give?—I do not recollect.

You gave korees instead of rupees, then what exchange was fixed upon?—He took the money without any rate of exchange being fixed.

Have you an account of these korees, or not?—I have no account.

If you had given as many rupees as you had taken, then there would be nothing strange; but as you gave korees in the place of rupees, how could the transaction take place without any account being kept?—There is no account.

How do you know that the 500 korees from the Durbar, and the other 200, in all 700, were not part of these korees (meaning the 2,500 and 600=3,100)?—The 700 korees are a separate item; for this reason, that the 700 korees are from the shop, and the korees given for the rupees are from my private funds.

Will you swear that what you paid to Bugwan Lal on account of the 1,199 rupees were korees, and not rupees?—I did not give rupees, and I gave the 1,199 rupees in korees; I am ready to swear to that. There was no understanding as to the exchange; but he received them on account of the rupees.

How do you know how many korees you gave?—I do not recollect exactly the amounts; but he may still claim 5 or 50 korees, or he may be owing that sum to me; but no dispute has at any time occurred about this.

Why did you first state that you gave rupees, and not korees?—I heard that Bugwanlal told you that he had received the rupees in two or three instalments; on this account, I, on consideration, said rupees, in order that no further dispute might occur.

(signed) *Anutjee Amurchund.*
Bugwanla Mudunjee.

27 August 1847.

(True translation.)

(signed) J. Black,
Acting Second Assistant Political Agent.

(True copies.)

(signed) Wm. Lang, Political Agent.

APPENDICES FROM A TO E.

Exhibit A.

Exhibit A.

Extract from the Rajkote Durbar Awuro for Sumvut, 1902 page 74.

2081.7. To be credited to Raja Shree Anutjee Umurchund's accounts from the daily accounts, page 101.

48.8 To be credited to certain villages, viz; Rs. 35 as per Voundwaee in 1901, and Rs. 13, there written.

* 1000. Two sums given to Raja Shree

* 500 On the occasion of a Wastoo through Jeenoo and Joonajee;

* 500 On the occasion of the giving of the jinoee on that day given through Anutjee;

NB. An attempt has been made to convert jinoee ojee into Jumla nuwaja ojee lately with ink of a different colour.

450 On the occasion of the Wastoo at Anutjee Amurchund's house, on that account by a letter to you; 400 from the Durbar, and 50 from Mamoo (Domedsing)

50 On the occasion of a Wastoo at Mehta Madow Raee's house, on that day wrote to you as per your accounts

234.2 On account of the Dadajee Wala's house, given to you for the purpose of holding grain; the repairs done to it.

100.14 + 20.10 + 11.0 + 36.4 + 21.6 + 44.0

31.4. Fodder for horse through Putan Hussen, 18.12 + 12.8

68.1 Stationery for 12 months

33.6 + 34.11. —

199.8 Provisions Bajree 1¾ Kulsees

48.8 To be debited to villages, particulars to be found in Nowaee for 1901, for Rs. 35.8 and the balance with you, Rs. 13.0; this is credited to Raja Shree Anutjee's Account.

1000 To be debited to expenses, balance omitted to be written in 1901 credited to Raja Shree Anutjee Umurchund's account.

*500 On the occasion of the Wastoo on that day through Kowass Jeena and Joonajee that (sum given) to Raja Shree's house.

450 by a note of hand for the Wastoo at Umurchund's house

500 _____ 50 from Mamoo

50 For Madoo Row Umbashunkur's Wastoo

833.7 To be debited to expenses and credited to Raja Shree Anutjee Umurchund

*500 For the jinoee of Raja Shree.

NB. This entry has also been lately altered into jeemaeenee for jinoee ma with ink of a different colour.

236.2 Expended for the Dadajee Wala house.

31.4 Fodder for horse, &c, through Putan Hussen

18.12 + 12.8

68.1 Stationery for 12 months

199.8 Provisions Bajree 1¾ kulsees Mafs 140.

To be credited to Raja Shree Anutjee

Total 2081.7.0

Total Rs. 2081.7.0

Exhibit B.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Exhibit B.

Extract from Anutjee Umurchund's Journal of Rajkote Shop for Sumvut 1902, — pages 151 & 152.

Page 151.

5,914. 13. To be debited to Thakoor Meramunjee's account

*500 Through Kewass Seena (sent) to Joonaghur.

*500 Through Anutjee Bhaee (sent) to the Raja Shree.

50 For Madow Rao's Wastoo.

150. 1 Wood for Umutlal.

350 Compensation given through Rewa Shunkur to Mehnean Joomma paid by order of Pol. Agent.

2700 " " Anutjee Bhaees allowances up to Badarwa Shood 2?

Page 152.

125 gave to Rewa Shunkur ground in Runkote on that account.

100 Fine from Dher of Bungrara for committing damage.

1289. 12 " Interest up to Shrawan Shood 2?

150, Exchange on 7500 Korees.

Total 5914. 13 " "

Page 152.

*1000 To be credited to the Joonaghur accounts Nos. 1000 through Anutjee Bhaee on account of Thakoor Meramunjee

500 ——— 500

page 7 (of the ledger)

Exhibit C.

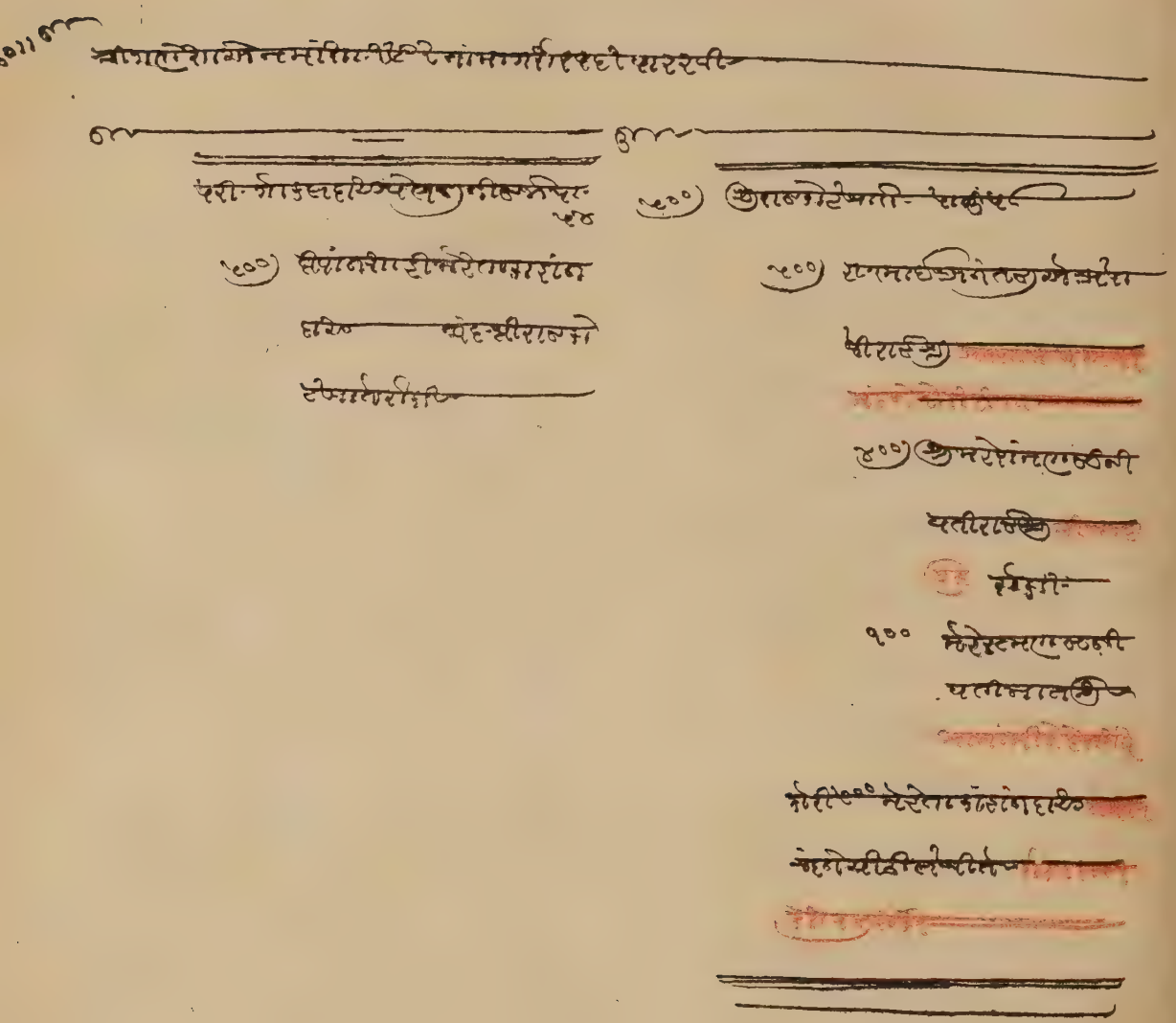

Exhibit C.

Extract from Anutjee Umurchund's Aworo of the Joonaghur Shop for 1902.

Page 54.

Kos. Credited to Parek Gokuldass Veljee
500 Deewan Saee to Mehta Khandass Mehalchund, Cash on account of Rajkote, (Shop)

N.B. The words written in red ink [illegible] for Codeychund

Page 58.

Kos.
500 On account of Rajkote.
500 caused to be given through Anutjee Bhaee to Umrutlal Umurchund, as follows—
400 On account of the Thakoor Meramunjee cash to the senior Wife of the Raja Shree.
100. On account of Meramunjee to give to Baneamee the mother.
500 Koree by a note of hand in favor of Khandass Mehta payable at sight, paid to Shakesur Jeyshunkur

N.B The words in red ink [illegible] to detect how they formerly were

Exhibit D.

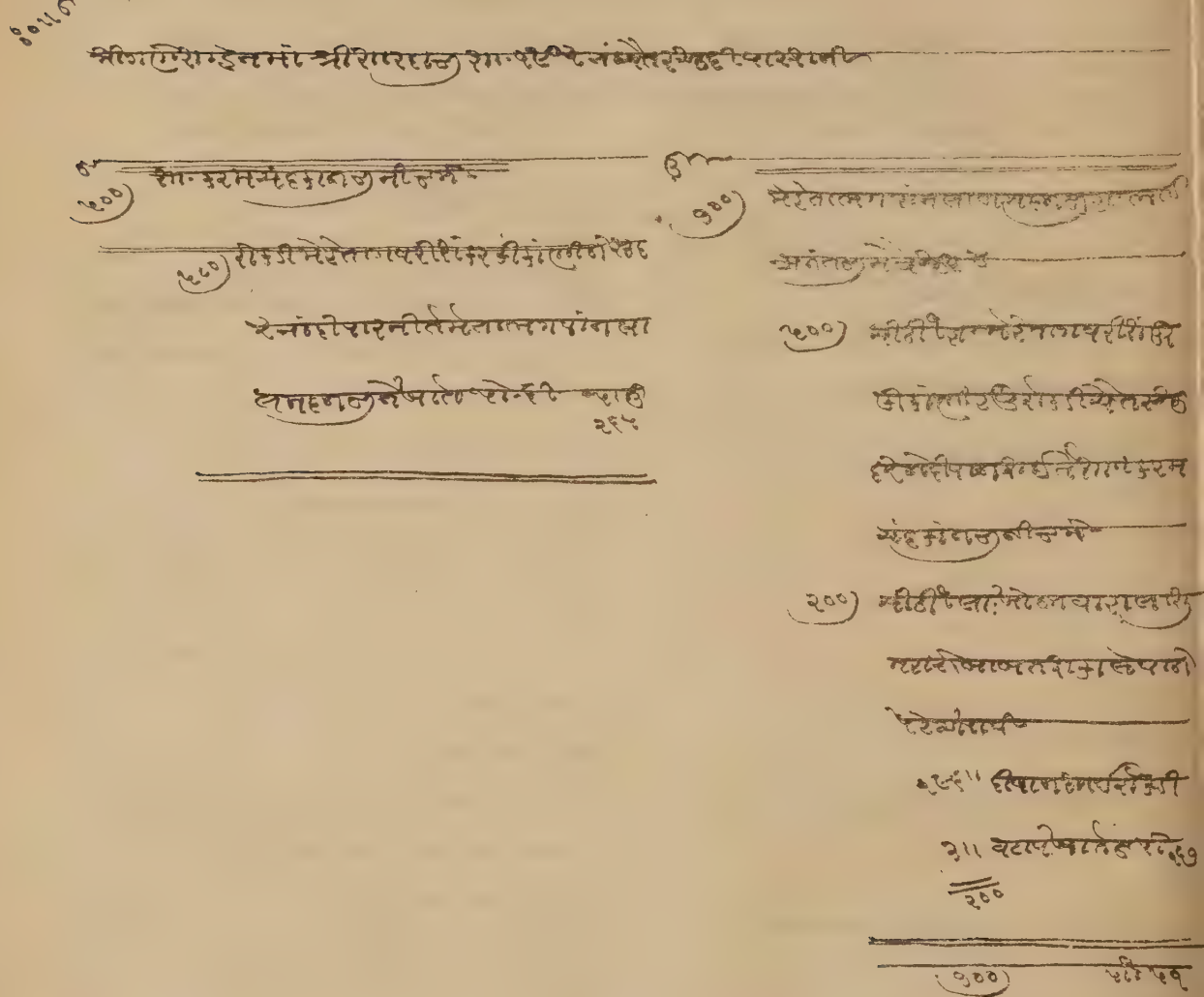

Exhibit E.

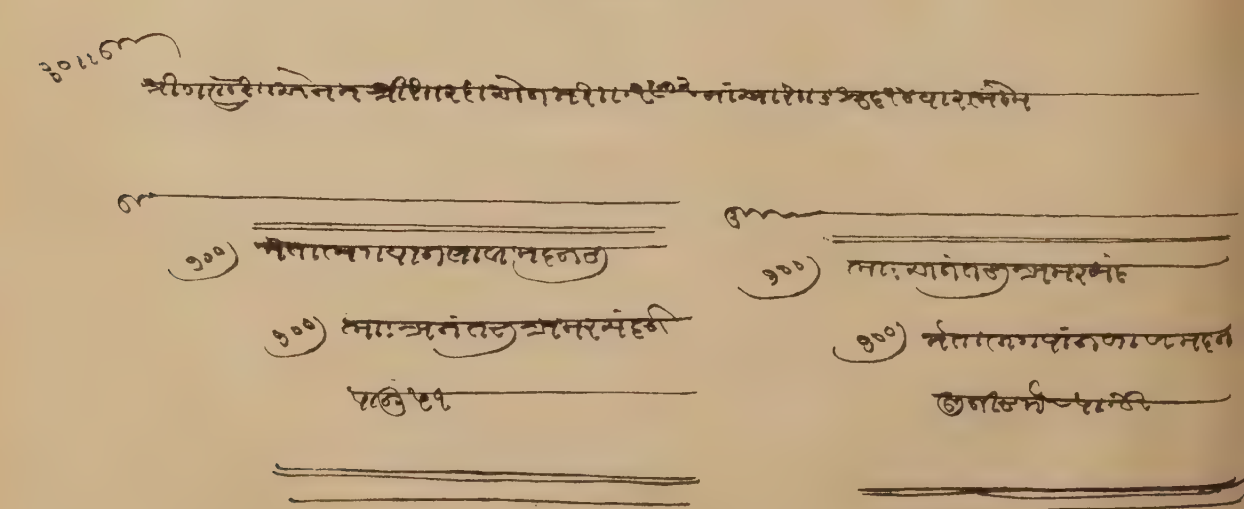

Exhibit D.

Extract from Anutjee Umurchund's Journal of Joonaghur Shop, for 1902

Page 265

Kos.
500 Credited to Shakurmchund Kemjee.
500 Cash paid to Mehta Gowreeshunker Keekanee Shood 2d on that day on account of Bugwan Lal page 61.

Page 267

Kos.
700 To Bugwantal Mudunjee through Anutjee Bhaee Chytur Shood 4.
500 Note of hand, Cash through Mehta Gowreeshunkur Keekanee on the 2d day of Chytur Shood to be credited to Kurumchund Kanjee.
200 Note of hand given to Kojee Wala Soomra for vegetables, viz
196. 8 0 Duwanshaee Koreas in Cash
3. 8. 0 Exchange
200

Exhibit E.

Extract from Anutjee Umurchund's Journal of Joonaghur Shop, for Sumvat 1902.

Page 398.

Koreas
700 Bugwan Lal Mudunjee
700 To be credited to Anutjee Umurchund.

Koreas.
700 Bhaee Anutjee Umurchund.
700 Mehta Bugwanlal Mudunjee credited to him

(True translations)
(Signed) J. Black.
Acting 2d Assistant Pol. Agent.

(True Copies)
(Signed) H. Jang.
Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 9632.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Messrs. *Reid* and *Willoughby*.

ON the 25th February 1846, the following circular was issued to the Political Agent in Kattywar, amongst other political authorities:—"I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to annex for your information copy of a circular letter issued from the Revenue Department, under date the 28th November 1828, prohibiting the practice of the interchange of gifts between a native officer and his subordinates, on the occasion of marriages, or other domestic ceremonies, and to acquaint you that Government has resolved that this order shall be made applicable to native servants employed in the Political Department."

2. The circular order of the 28th November 1828, above alluded to, was to following effect:—"The Honourable the Governor in Council directs that no kamavisdar, or any other public officer, is to receive on the occasion of marriages, or other ceremonies in his family, or among his connexion, any 'nuzur,' 'chandla,' or present under any denomination whatever, from the public servants or inhabitants of the district in which they may be employed; and persons contravening this order shall be liable to be judicially prosecuted and dismissed. You will be pleased to communicate the above to all your native servants."

3. On the above instructions reaching the late Political Agent in Kattywar, that gentleman addressed, under date the 3d March 1846, a letter to Government, in which, for the reasons therein mentioned, he suggested a partial modification, as regarded the Kattywar Agency, of the rule which Government had ordered to be enforced; and in reply to this representation, the present Political Agent in Kattywar was informed, under date the 12th September 1846, that Government could not, as proposed by him, authorise any relaxation of the above order.

4. With the accompanying letter, Major Lang has forwarded his proceedings in a recent investigation into two charges preferred again Bhugwan Lal Mudunjee, the head native agent to the Kattywar Political Agency, for having received from the Rajkote Durbar, through the means of its karbaree, Anuntjee Amerchund, two presents of 500 korees each, one of which he received anterior, and the other subsequent, to the promulgation of the order of Government above alluded to.

5. The Kharbaree Anuntjee has, during the course of inquiry, proved himself entirely undeserving of credit, as far as the case rests on his evidence, unsupported by other proofs. Apart, however, from the admissions which Bhugwan Lal has made, I am of opinion that the extracts from the chopras of the Rajcote Durbar, and from those belonging to Anuntjee, taken in connexion with the erasures and alterations which, evidently for the purpose of concealment, have been made in these accounts, added to the facts which Major Lang elicited during the course of the inquiry, afford undeniable proof of Bhugwan Lal having received both of these presents. As one of these presents was received subsequently to the promulgation of the Government order of the 25th February last, and as Bhugwan Lal has, I consider, by his equivocation, forfeited all claims to confidence in future, and to any clemency, I would, in his case, impose the penalty of dismissal, with exclusion from any service whatever under the British Government in future, to which he has rendered himself liable.

6. For the disgraceful part which Anuntjee has taken in the affair, it would have been proper for Government to have issued a prohibition against his being recognised hereafter by the Political Agent, as the agent or minister of any chief in Kattywar, but for the circumstance of such a step being, at the present moment, likely to disarrange the affairs of the Joonaghur State. I would, however, strictly confine his services for the future to the Joonaghur Durbar, and I am of opinion that a prohibitory order should be issued against his being hereafter employed by any other state, or talooka, in the province. He should also be debarred from receiving on his visits to the Political Agent, connected with the affairs of Joonaghur, the honorary marks of attention which it has heretofore been usual to accord to him.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

7. I do not consider it advisable to adopt Major Lang's suggestion, of Government, in behalf of the Nawab of Joonaghur, exacting from Anuntjee a bond, making himself liable to pay a five-fold amount for any misappropriations of the revenues of that State, should such hereafter be proved against him, for his conduct in this case having deprived him of all title to consideration from our Government, there can be now no reason why, in case of any peculations, or misappropriations of public money being hereafter proved against him, he should not be amenable to the Joonaghur Government, which would proceed against him as against any other dishonest karbaree, for faults committed subsequent to the Nawaub's majority, if he retains service after the period for which he was originally employed with the consent of the Political Agent.

8. In the event of any malpractices being committed by Anuntjee previous to the Nawab attaining his majority, Government, under the conditions on which he was appointed karbaree of the Joonaghur Durbar, clearly possess the power to bring him to trial for such delinquencies before the Political Agent's Court of Criminal Justice in Kattywar. On Annutjee's appointment to this office, he passed the following engagement to the Political Agent:

"I was formerly in the service of the Nawab Bhadur Khanjee. At that time there was a business concerning some gold, and the Sirkar issued a proclamation, in which my name appeared. Now the Nawab Hamed Khanjee entertains me; but his age is immature, and he has to carry on affairs with the advice of the Political Agent at this place. I cannot remain without the permission of Government, but the Nawab wishes for me; but I am not confirmed here until the orders of Government may be received; therefore I write this agreement, that in case I am employed I will perform service to my full ability. I will not in any way act improperly. I will take no shares in any farm of districts. I will not take any sookree or bribe on any account; nor will I knowingly give any to any one, or suffer any one to take such. In whatever affair the Nawab, or Sudashew Row Dewajee, or Jemedar Juweha may require my advice, I will give it faithfully. If I ever find that any one acts wrong in the Sirkar's affairs, I will immediately inform the Nawab and the Sirkar. If my conduct in any way should differ from what I have here written, I will be personally answerable in whatever way the Sahib may order, and whatever may be ordered I will obey.

(signed) "*Anutjee Amurchund.*"

9. I consider the arrangement proposed by Major Lang, in the 11th para. of his letter, as eminently desirable; under it the pay would be as follows:

				Rs.	*a.*	*p.*
Dufterdar, per mensem - - - - - - - - -				200	–	–
Sheristadar, per mensem, from Government - -	79	8	–			
From the Mahsullee Department, 20 Ahmedabad Sicca	18	9	11			
Company's Rupees - - -				98	1	11

(signed) *G. Clerk.*
L. R. Reid.
J. P. Willoughby.

2 December 1847.

No. 9633.

*No. 4725 of 1847.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 15th September last, No. 122, submitting your proceedings in a recent investigation into charges preferred against Bhugwan Lal

Lal Mudunjee, the head native agent to the Katteewar Political Agency, of having received from the Rajcote Durbar, through the intervention of its karbaree, Anuntjee Ameerchund, two presents of 500 korees each, one anterior and the other subsequent to the promulgation of the orders of Government, dated the 25th February 1846, prohibiting the interchange of gifts by native servants in the employ of Government.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

2. In reply, I am directed to inform you that the karbarie, Anuntjee, has, during the course of this investigation, proved himself entirely undeserving of credit, as far as the case rests on his evidence unsupported by other proofs. Apart, however, from the admissions which Bhugwan Lal has made, the Governor in Council is of opinion that the extracts from the chopras of the Rajcote Durbar, and from those belonging to Anuntjee, taken in connexion with the erasures and alterations which, evidently for the purpose of concealment, have been made in these accounts, conjoined to the facts which you have elicited during the course of the inquiry, afford undeniable proof of Bhugwan Lal having received both of these presents.

3. As one of these presents was received subsequent to the promulgation of the Government order of the 25th February 1846, and as Bhugwan Lal has, by his equivocation, forfeited all claims to confidence in future, the Honourable the Governor in Council considers him to be altogether undeserving of clemency, and accordingly directs that he be forthwith dismissed from his situation of native agent to the Katteewar Agency. Government has also resolved to declare Bhugwan Lal disqualified for future service in any capacity under the British Government, and a circular to this effect will this day be issued to the several authorities under this Presidency.

4. For the disgraceful part which Anuntjee has taken in this affair, it would have been proper for Government to have issued a prohibition against his being recognised hereafter by the Political Agent as the agent or minister of any chief in Katteewar, but for the circumstance of such a step being at the present moment likely to disarrange the affairs of the Joonaghur State. The Governor in Council, however, directs that his services be for the future strictly confined to the Joonaghur Durbar, and authorises you to issue a prohibitory order against his being hereafter employed by any other state or talooka in the province. Government is also pleased to direct that the honorary marks of attention which it has heretofore been usual to accord to him be discontinued on the occasion of his future visits to the Political Agent, on matters connected with the affairs of Joonaghur.

5. The Governor in Council does not consider it advisable to adopt your suggestion, in paragraph 10, that Government should, on behalf of the Nawab of Joonaghur, exact from Anuntjee a bond, rendering himself liable to pay a fivefold amount for any misappropriation of the revenues of that State, should such hereafter be proved against him. His conduct in the present case having deprived him of all title to consideration from the British Government, there can be now no reason why, in case of any peculations or misappropriations of public money being hereafter proved against him, he should not be amenable to the Joonagur Government, which would proceed against him as against any other dishonest karbaree, for faults committed subsequent to the Nawab's majority, if he retains service after the period for which he was originally employed with the consent of your predecessor.

6. In the event of any malpractices being committed by Anuntjee, previous to that attainment by the Nawab of his majority, Government, under the conditions* on which he was appointed karbaree of the Joonaghur Durbar, clearly possesses the power to bring him to trial for such delinquencies before the Political Agent's Court of Criminal Justice in Katteewar.

* *Vide* engagement entered into by Anuntjee on his appointment to the office.

7. The Governor in Council considers the arrangement proposed in the 11th paragraph of your letter to be eminently desirable, and is accordingly pleased to authorise its adoption. By this arrangement the salary of the late native agent will be distributed as follows:

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

				Rs.	a.	p.
Dufterdar, per mensem - - - - - - - - -				200	–	–
Sheristedar, per mensem, from Government - -	79	8	–			
From the Mohsullee Departmen, 20 Ahmedabad siccas	18	9	11			
Company's Rupees - - -				98	1	11

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet,*
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle,
9 December 1847.

No. 4726 and 4727 of 1847.

An extract, paragraph 7, from the above letter to be sent for the information of the Civil Auditor and Accountant-general.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle,
9 December 1847.

Circular.

No. 9634 to 9338.

No. 4728 of 1847.—Political Department.

To the Resident at Baroda.

Sir,

Bhugwan Lal Mudunjee, the head native agent to the Katteewar Political Agency, having been convicted of receiving presents, in contravention of the orders of Government prohibiting the interchange of gifts by native servants in its employ, I am directed to inform you that the Honourable the Governor in Council has been pleased to direct his dismissal from office, and to declare him disqualified for future employment under Government in any capacity whatever.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet,*
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle,
9 December 1847.

The same as above.

To the Commissioner in Sind.
Political Agent in Mahee Kanta.
Ditto - - Rewa Kanta.
Ditto - - Pahlunpor.
Ditto - - Kutch.
Agent for the Governor at Surat.
Resident at Sattara.
Political Agent in the Southern Mahratta Country.
Political Superintendent of Kolapor.
Ditto - - - Sawunt Warree.
Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan.
Resident in the Persian Gulph.
Political Agent at Aden.
Captain Hamerton.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Chief Secretary.

No. 4729 to 4732 of 1847.

Resolution of Government in the Political Department; dated 9 December 1847.

Ordered, that copy of the above Circular be transferred to the different departments of the Secretariate, that an intimation to the effect therein contained may thence be made to the different authorities under each department.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Chief Secretary.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 16 December 1847.

Government, No. 131 of 1847.—General, No. 553 of 1847.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

No. 9672.

Political Department.

Sir,

With reference to the concluding paragraph of my letter of the 15th instant, I have the honour to forward translations of the petitions and depositions taken by myself and my assistant Mr. Black, in the case therein alluded to. The petition from Ala Khachur, numbered 2, in the proceedings, was never presented till now, but appears to have been retained by Chela Khacheer, in the hope that he might be enabled to recover the balance of 1,400 rupees, paid to the Wakeel Rewashunker, without preferring any complaint on the subject to the Political Agent. Payment having been evaded, however, for so long a time, he gave in the petition openly about a fortnight after the suspension of the native agent and the first assistant's carcoon.

2. Ala Khacher's uncle, who paid the money on this occasion, stated at first that he had given 1,000 rupees to Anuntjee Umurchund, the Joonaghur and Rajkote Karbaree, and 1,400 to the Wakeel Rewashunker, the whole for the purpose of being paid to the Government karbarees, and chiefly to the native agent, Bhugwanlal. On examining Anuntjee, however, and confronting him and Ala Khachur's uncle, Hathya Veenchya, it appeared evident that 400 or 500 rupees only had been paid to Anuntjee, and 500 more to Goolabrae, the first assistant's carcoon, which was also immediately afterwards sent to Anuntjee by Goolabrae, and the whole, with the exception of 50 rupees (which Anuntjee denies having received) repaid to Chela Khacher's karharee at Joonaghur, a few months afterwards. What led to its being thus refunded I have been unable to discover, but there is no doubt whatever of its having been so, and Hathya Veerchya having taken an oath to the remaining 50 rupees, Anuntjee has likewise repaid that sum.

3. Goolabraee states that he refused to keep the 500 rupees which were paid to him when brought by Hathya Veenchya, but that as he left it and went away, he immediately afterwards sent it to Anuntjee Umerchund for repayment to Chela Khachur, as he belived the people about his son were plundering him of what he had, and would make away with that also if returned to him. There seems to be no doubt of the sum in question having been sent to Anuntjee as stated, and as it was not credited by him to Goolabrae, the intention in sending it must have been to have it restored to some one, which is further proved by the actual repayment of it two or three months afterwards to Chelakacher's karbaree; as far as the evidence goes, therefore, the only error committed in the matter by Goolabrae was in not acquainting Captain Aston fully with what had occurred.

4. As regards the amount retained by the Wakeel Rewashunkur, there is no evidence whatever that any portion of it went further, and as far as I can judge, I believe that the sum of 500 rupees paid to Anuntjee must have been for his own good offices, and not for Bhugwanlal. I am bound, however, at the same time to state, in justice to the Wakeel Rewashunker, who is one of the quietest and best behaved of the men of that class attached to the Agency, that there is no reason to suspect him of intending to keep the money himself, beyond the sum of 200 rupees which he had credited to his own account for wakeel fees in the book which he produced. I required him, however, to pay the whole amount of 1,400 rupees to Chela Khachur, which has now been done, but it will probably be considered necessary, in addition to this, as an example to others, that he should be dismissed from practising as a wakeel in this Agency.

I have, &c.

Kattewar Political Agency,
Rajkote, 25 September 1847.

(signed) *W. Lang*,
Political Agent.

Forwarded to Mr. Chief Secretary Malet, with letter No. 553 of 1847, Consultation, No. 131, dated 25th September.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

INDEX.

Nos.
1. Petition from Kachur Chela Watsoor, of Jusdun, representing that 2,400 rupees had been expended by his son improperly in Rajcote, and requesting assistance for the recovery of the balance not returned - - - - p. 788
2. Copy of petition of Ala Kachur, addressed to Arthur Malet, Esq., Political Agent, dated Chuetur Wud 4th, Sumvut 1902, representing that Hattia Veechia and Vukeel Rewashunker had received from him 2,400 rupees, to be expended as bribes to karbarees p. 788
3. A writing from Hatta Veechia, accounting for the expenditure of 1,400 rupees - p. 789
4. Deposition of Hattia Veechia, the uncle of Ala Kachur, states that the 1,400 rupees were given by him to Rewashunker for the purpose of bribing those whom Rewashunkur considered it necessary to influence in their favour, and also that he was to take 100 for his fee, and 100 for the security given, and that 1,000 were given to Anutjee, making in all 2,400 rupees - - - - - - - p. 789
5. Deposition of Bolanath states, that through Jussa Wala he recovered the 950 rupees from Anuntjee, but that Jussa Wala promised 1,000 rupees - - - - - - p. 789
6. Ditto of Naja Koompa, the servant of Chela Kacher, states that he received the note No. 3 from Hattia Veechia - - - p. 790
7. Ditto of Anuntjee Amurchund, karbaree, acknowledges having received 400 rupees for himself, and that Goolabraee gave him 500, which he had received from the same party, to be returned to Chela Kachur; that he returned this money, viz. 900 rupees to Bolanath, and that the money was given to him because he stood security for Ala Kachur - - - - - - - p. 790
8. Deposition of Golabraee Umlashunkur, p. 791
9. Deposition of Rewashunker, the Wukeel of Rajcote, acknowledges his having received 1,400 rupees, and states that of this sum 200 were his fee, as agent, and that the balance was placed with him as a deposit by Kattia Vecchia - - - - - - - p. 792
10. Deposition of Rewashunkur continued, in which he attempts to account for the irregularities in his book - - - - p. 792
11. Writing from four mooneems of sowcars, giving as their opinion, that alterations have been made in the book, and that some pages are wanting - - - - - - - p. 793
12. Yadee from Anunjee, accounting for 950 rupees, which he acknowledges to have received - - - - - - - p. 793
13. Deposition of Bolanath, Nuthoo Bhut, and Nurberam, stating that Anuntjee returned 950 rupees in the following manner: viz., by hoondee on Rajcote for 900 rupees, and 50 rupees in money; the latter sum was paid to Nurberam Wukeel, which he acknowledges - - - - - - - p. 793

No. 1.

PETITION from *Katchur Chela Watsor*, of Jusdhun, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent.

A. C.

I BEG to represent, that formerly in Mr. Malet's time, Ala Katchur went to him to complain against me; at that time he took with him, from the money chests, a large sum of money, and of this he spent a large sum unlawfully, and Katchur Ala's maternal uncle, Veechia Hattia, and Wukeel Rewa Shunkur Annutram, took, in the name of a certain person or persons, 2,400 rupees; of this money the sum of 950 rupees was returned at Joonaghur through Wala Jussa Husoor, and with regard to the balance of 1,450 rupees, Ala Katchur, on the 14th of Chueter Wud, St. 1900, gave me a letter addressed to Mr. Malet, and that letter was signed by Katchur Ala himself, and a copy of it is annexed to this letter, the perusal of which will make you acquainted with the matter. I have until now waited, expecting that from my injunctions Veechia Hattia and Wukeel Rewashunkur would arrange the matter amicably, but they put me off from day to day, therefore being helpless I was obliged to report the circumstance to you; you will do me a kindness if you will call these two men into your presence and cause them to return me my money.

Sumvut 1903, Shrawun Wud 4th (Monday, August 1847).

P.S.—A copy of a writing from the above-mentioned Veechia Hattia is inclosed, and now he denies this; be pleased to enjoin him to give it up.

No. 2.

From *Katchur Ala Chela*, of Jusdhun, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar.

A. C.

I BEG to represent, that I waited upon you at Rajcote; at that time my uncle, Veechia Hattia, and Wukeel Rewashunkur, took from me 2,400 rupees for the purpose of giving as a bribe to karbarees; of this sum, 950 rupees I again received at Joonaghur, through Wala Jassa Hursoor, and the balance of 1,450 rupees I did not receive. Will you have the kindness to cause that sum to be restored. This I beg to represent.

Sumvut 1902, Chuetur Wud 4th. (signed) *Katchur Ala Chela.*

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 3.

Veechia Hattio Ganga.

Whereas, Rewashunkur Mehta received (first) in hard cash 1,200 rupees, and afterwards 100 rupees for his pay as vukeel, and afterwards 100 rupees for the security bond.

No. 4.

Hattio Ganga, Hindo, Kattie Veechia, aged 45 years, inhabitant of Babra, at present residing with and in the service of Katchur Chela, of Jusdun, states, in presence of Major W. Lang, Political Agent.

On account of the misunderstanding between Chela and his son Ala Katchur, the latter went to a fort, and about three years ago he left the fort and went to the Political Agent, and I came along with Ala Kachur; he employed as his wukeel Rewashunkur, and gave petitions; a few days after this Rewashunkur told me it would be necessary for their business to give the Government karbarees money, that by giving money the business they had would be carried on; afterwards I took from Ala Katchur 1,400 sicca rupees and gave to Rewashunkur, and I told him to give the rupees to whom he chose, and to keep 100 rupees as his fee for his service, and to give 100 rupees to the person who had become security to Government, and to give the balance 1,200 rupees to whom he pleased; on saying this I gave the money. Then Ala Karchur became sick, and leaving his business unsettled he went to Veevehia, and after this, whether Rewashunkur gave the money to any one or kept it I don't know.

Question.—Chela Katcher states, that Ala Katchur took away with him 2,400 rupees and gave it through Rewashunkur, and out of this he received at Joonaghur 950 rupees; how do you explain this?—*Answer.* One thousand four hundred rupees were given to Rewashunkur, and I myself gave to Anuntjee Karbaree 1,000 rupees; of this Chela Katchur may have afterwards received back 950 rupees.

Where were you when you gave these rupees, and what time elapsed between your giving the rupees to Anuntjee and Rewashunkur?—I first gave to Rewasunkur; I went to his house and gave them, and after about five or ten days I went to Anuntjee's house at Rajcote, and gave him the rupees.

What was the object of giving first 1,400 rupees to Rewasunker, and then 1,000 rupees to Anuntjee?—I was doubtful whether Rewasunkur had given any or not.

Did any one say it was necessary to give anything to Anuntjee, or how?—No, no one said so, but knowing him to be a person of high standing, I gave it to him in order that it might reach him.

That it might reach whom?—I gave it, thinking it would reach the Government karbaree Bhugwanlaul, and my business was in his hands.

With regard to these rupees, did you ask Anuntjee or Rewasunkur whether they had given them to any one?—I do not ask them.

What time elapsed before Kachur Chela again received the rupees?—I do not know when he got them back; I heard about two months after he received them.

Did you afterwards demand the money back from Rewashunkur?—No, I did not.

Where were these rupees brought from?—Ala Kachur brought them from a chest belonging to Chela Kachur in the fort, and afterwards Chela Kachur asked where the money had been expended, and I said that I had given to Rewasunkur 1,400 rupees, and to Anuntjee 1,000 rupees, and requested him to inquire into it, and I did not again ask Rewasunkur or others.

Sumvut 1903 (7th September 1847). (signed) *Veechia Hattis Ganga.*
Shrawun Wud 13th (Tuesday.)

No. 5.

Bolanath Marabhaee, Hindoo, Nagur Wurnuggura Brahmin, in the service of Chela Cutchur of Jusdhun, as Mehta, aged about 60 years, at present residing in Jusdun, states in presence of MajorW. Lang, Political Agent in Kattywar.

Owing to the misunderstanding between Chela Kachur and his son Ala Kachur, the latter came to Rajcote about St. 1899, and Chela Kachur came and persuaded him to go home; then I went to Dolka; on this, Chela Kachur must have asked Ala Kacher for an account of the rupees, but at that time I was not present. I afterwards returned from Dalka, on this Chela Kachur sent me and Nathoo Bhut on his business in St. 1900, to Joonaghur, where Mr. Malet then was, and I went there, and Jusso Walo of Buldoee came there and said to me, I will give you 1,000 rupees, therefore take them; I said, what rupees, and he said Ala Kachur's, and I asked on whose account do you give them, and he then said, on Anuntjee Amurchund's account; and I said, very good, if you are to give them, bring them, and I shall send them; then Jusso Wala took us two to Anuntjee Amurchund and told him to give us the money; and then he gave an order on his shop to pay us 950 rupees; the shopkeeper gave us an order on, I think, Nursing Pursaud Madow Rao, of Rajkote; then Nuthoo Bhut came to Rajcote, and having received the money for the Hoondee, took it to Chela Kachur at Jusdhun. This is all I know.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Question. One thousand rupees had been agreed upon in that case, why did you take 950 rupees?—*Answer.* Jussa Wala told Anuntjee to give us 1,000 rupees, and Anuntjee said, there are 950 rupees, and Jussa Wala and I said, what there is, is right, and he told the shopkeeper to give us the money, and the shopkeeper gave us an order.

Did you ever demand the balance, 1,400 rupees?—Not that I know of, Chela Kachur may have; I do not know.

Sumvut 1903, Shrawn Wud 13th, (signed) *Bolanath.*
(7th September 1847).

No. 6.

Naja Kowpa, Hindoo, Katti Geeda, in the service of Kachur Chela, of Jusdhun, aged about 70 years, residing at Jusdun, states in present of Major W. Lang, Political Agent in Kattywar.

About St. 1899, Chela Kachur's son, Ala Kachur, owing to a quarrel left him and came to Rajcote; then Chela Kachur came, and having reconciled him, took him away to Jusdun; then Chela Kachur must have asked Ala Kachur for an account of the rupees, the latter must have told him that his uncle Hattia Vecchia knew about 2,400 rupees; then Chela Kachur told me to ask Veechia Hattia, when I should see him, what had become of the 2,400 rupees, and I said very well, and afterwards Chela Kachur received through Nuthoo Bhut 950 rupees, and then I went on business to Nanee Koonkawao, a village belonging to Jetpoor, and Hattia Veechia was at Aruncede; I sent two suwars there to call him, and he came; I said to him, Ala Kachur writes that 2,400 rupees were given through you; of this 950 rupees have been recovered, but where is the balance, bring it here; on this he said, I have not got it, and saying this he gave me a writing containing an account of the disposal of the money, and said he had disposed of the money as stated in the note. I took the writing and went to Jusdhun, and gave the writing to Chela Kachur. What was in the note, it is so long since now, I do not recollect.

Q. Have you ever up to the present time said anything to Rewashunkur about the rupees?—*A.* Until within the last few days I did not; I then called him before Chela Kachur, and asked for the rupees; on this he said, I took 100 rupees for my fee as agent; as for the balance I know not, such was his answer.

Sumvut 1903, Shrawun Wud 13th. (signed) *Naja Koompa,*
(7 September 1847).

No. 7.

Anuntjee Amurchund, Hindoo, Nagur Wur Nuggura, Karbarree, aged about 38 years, inhabitant of Joonaghur, states before Major W. Lang, Political Agent:

About Sumvut 1899, Kackur Chela and his son Ala had a misunderstanding; on this Kachur Ala came to the Political Agent, and lived in the town of Rajcote. On this account a Government peon came to me and said, Will you in the name of the thacor, keep Ala Kachur under surveillance, otherwise he will be put in the guard. This he said to me because I was the Durbar karbaree; I detained the peon and sent Kengarjee to ask the thacor what he would do, then Thacor Soorajee refused, saying, what advantage is it to us? but Ala Kachur remained there at the Bhaonuggur (karbarree's) house until 12 o'clock with me; he afterwards arose and went to his own house, and I placed two Arabs with him, in order that should he attempt to go away they might that instant inform me, and at daybreak I left the Bhownuggur's house and went to my own house, and Ala Kachur's maternal uncle, whose name I do not recollect, gave me at that time sicca 400 rupees, hard cash, and I kept them, and I fell asleep; on that day I intended going to Joonaghur, but the Arabs detained me. I was thus detained here for three or four days, and the next day Mehta Goolabraee gave me 500 rupees, and said, return these rupees to Alakachur. On this I took the 500 rupees, and afterwards I left for Joonaghur; either on this account or because Ala Kachur had left before me, I did not give him them, and they remained with me a few days after I reached Joonaghur. Mr. Malet arrived at Joonaghur, and I met Bolanath, the Jusdun kamdar, at Joonaghur, and I told him what I have just mentioned, and Bolanath said, that the Durbar had spoken to him also about the rupees. Then I gave Bolanath a note of hand on our Rajcote firm, for either 900 rupees, or a little more; this draft was honoured, and the Jusdhun chief received his money.

Question. On what account were the 400 rupees given?—*Answer.* At that time none would become security for him, and I took charge of him; he gave me the money on that account.

Do you know what agreement was made for the delivery of Ala Kachur (to Government)?—Ala Kachur had escaped from a fort, therefore the Political Agent ordered him to be given up.

Did you return the rupees the same year, or afterwards?—I do not recollect, but I think it was the same year in which I met Bolanath.

If

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

If the money was given to you on account of your being security, what was the reason of giving it back?—Bolanath said, "Chela and Ala Kachur have come to an understanding; therefore give back the money," I therefore did so.

Will an account of these rupees be found in your shop?—There will be an entry of the draft I gave, but there will not be an entry of the receipt of that money; if there be I shall look for it and inform you.

Where did you keep these rupees, that there should not be an account of them?—I kept them in hard cash by me; on this account there will be no account of them.

When you went to Joonaghur, where did you keep these rupees?—I left them here in my house.

Have you any account of what money you take out or put into your house?—No, I have not.

Hathia Veechia states, that he gave to you, at your house, 1,000 rupees; how do you account for that?—He gave to me 400 rupees.

Hattio Veechia is here called, and confronted.

Anuntjee acknowledges to have received 400 rupees, but you say you gave him 1,000 rupees. How is this?—I gave to Anuntjee 500 rupees, and to Goolabraee 500 rupees, in all 1,000 rupees.

On what account did you give them to Goolabree, and through whom did you give them?—I gave that money on account of Ala Kachur's business, and I gave it with my own hand.

Did you give it before or after the arrival of Chela Kachur?—I gave it after his arrival.

Did you first enter into any agreement with Goolabree and then give it, or how?—I gave the money to Goolabraee, and said, "This business is being conducted; do your best for us;" and Goolabraee answered, "God will cause it to prosper." On this I gave him a blessing, and left.

Do you know why Goolabraee afterwards returned the rupees?—I do not know; Chela Kachur's people must have taken it back.

What time elapsed between your giving the rupees and your informing Chela Kachur?—About two months, when his men came to me at Babras.

Anuntjee here questioned.

For what reason did Goolabraee give you these rupees?—Either because he thought I was a friend of Ala Kachur, or because he (Ala Kachur) was in my house.

(signed) *Anuntjee Amurchund.*
Veechia Hattio Ganga.

Sumvut 1903, Shrawun Wud 13th.
(Tuesday, 7 September 1847,) Rajcote.

No. 8.

Goolabraee Umbashunkur, Hindoo Nagur, aged 38 years, states before Major Lang, Political Agent in Katteewar:

About four years ago, Ala Kachur came to Rajcote; and one of his men, whose name I do not recollect, came to me, and that person brought with him a bag, containing about 500 rupees. I refused the offer, but he left it in my house; but as Ala Kachur was young, on this account his men, for the purpose of robbing, acted thus; and I at that time said to that person, "I shall inform Chela Kachur about these rupees." But Cheela Kachur was not at that time at Rajcote; I therefore sent them to Anuntjee, and told him to inform Chela Kachur, and return the money; and afterwards Mr. Malet went to Joonaghur, and Naja Geedo and Bolanath came there on the part of Chela Kachur, and Anuntjee paid them these rupees, either by a bill or note of hand on Rajcote. And I told Captain Aston that Ala Kachur's men were robbing him, but I did not tell him about these rupees; and last year, when Ala Kachur came here, from information I gave Captain Aston, he wrote to you on that subject.

Q. What did you say to the person who came to give you the rupees?—*A.* I said, "Take them away;" but he left them, and went away.

What time elapsed before you received these rupees from Anuntjee?—About one and a half month.

At that time Chela Kachur was here; why, then, did you send them to Anuntjee, and not to him?—I do not think Chela Kachur was here at that time, and therefore I gave the money to Anuntjee.

How long was it after you received them before you gave them to Anuntjee?—About one or two days; and when I received the rupees, Chela Kachur was here; and when I gave them to Anuntjee, Chela Kachur was not here.

Why did you not inform Captain Aston about these rupees?—I did not inform Captain Aston, because I thought it would cause extra trouble in investigating it.

(signed) *Goolabraee.*

Sumvut 1903, Shrawun Wud 13th.
(Tuesday, 7 September 1847,) Rajcote.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Hattia Veechia called, and confronted with *Goolabraee.*

Q. When you gave the rupees to Goolabraee, did he refuse them, or how? [This question was asked in Goolabraee's presence.]—*A.* I did not hear him, if he did refuse them; but I put the rupees down beside him, and left.

(signed) *Hattia Veechia.*

No. 9.

Rewashunkur Anandram, Hindoo Nagur Wurnuggura Bhugut, Vekeel in the service of the Thacor of Rajcote, age, about 35 years; inhabitant of Rajcote; states before Major W. Lang, Political Agent in Kattewar:

Ala Kachur, having quarrelled with his father, Chela Kachur, of Jusdhun, came to Rajcote in the month of Badurwa of Sumvut 1899, and employed me as his wukeel; and after about four or five days, Chela Kachur also came to Rajcote, and along with Ala Kachur was a kattee, named Hattia Veechio. This person gave me 1,400 rupees, and said, "Keep as your own fee, as agent, 200 rupees, and the 1,200 rupees give to whomsoever it is necessary, for I know no one." On this I said no one would receive it from me, and I would not go to give it. Then he said to me, "I will leave it with you." I said, "I cannot take care of so much money." He said, "There is no place to keep it in my house, and Ala Kachur is squandering his money; therefore keep it by you, I shall afterwards take it away." Then I kept the money. A few days after this, Hattia Veechio went away, whether from any quarrel with Ala Kachur I do not know; and after that Ala Kachur also departed; and about one, or one and a half month after this, Hattio Veechio came to Rajcote, and I told him to take away his rupees. Then he said, "Leave them here for the present; when I and Ala Kachur both come together, we will then take this money." But after this no one came; and now Ala Kachur has come to Rajcote, and with him is a man, named Gela Jobalio. The latter, about 10 days ago, asked me for the money; and I replied, "It is ready." But I said I heard that Chela Kachur had complained to Government, and that on an answer being given, I would give up the money.

Hattia Veechia was here confronted with *Rewashunker,* and questioned as follows:

Q. On what account did you give Rewashunkur 1,400 rupees?—I gave to him 100 rupees for his fee as wukeel, and 100 rupees to be given to the Durbar, on account of its becoming the security of Ala Kachur; and I gave 1,200 rupees to be given to some one, if necessary.

Did Rewashunkur speak of giving the money to any one, or did he say that no one would take it from him?—He did not say that no one would take it from him; but he said, "If anything is to be given, I shall give it."

(signed) *Rewashunkur.*
Veechio Hattia.

Sumvut 1903, Shrawun Wud 13th.
(7 September 1847.)

No. 10.

Rewashunkur Anundram's Examination continued before Lieutenant Black, Assistant Political Agent in Katteewar.

Q. On examining your chopra, it appears that the pages up to No. 14 are correct, but between pages 14 and 16, the 15th page is wanting; where is it?—*A.* In writing in this book, the latter part of it was filled up, and the leaves in the commencement of the book were left blank; and, on the commencement of another year, when I was obliged to rebind the chopra, for the sake of economy I placed the pages which were written over at the commencement of the book, and the blank leaves below them, and on this account the leaves are not in their proper places; and there were many with and many without being numbered, therefore the numbers do not follow in their proper order.

The numbering of the pages up to page 20 is correct and similar, but on that page 47 is also written; how is that?—When I altered the position of the leaves, there must have been a number upon it, and I must have afterwards written another number to make it correspond with the other pages, and this occurs on many other leaves, and in many places. In order to make the numbers of the pages correspond, I erased the numbers (with a sharp instrument); and some of the leaves may be without number, and on some of the pages the old numbers must be still; and as there is no journal or ledger connected with this book, what use is there in numbering the pages? For if there were any journal or ledger, it then would be necessary.

From page 20 to page 45, the numbers are all altered, and after page 45 page 28 occurs, and it is not altered at all; how is this?—From altering the position of the leaves, this irregularity occurs, as above explained; and the alteration took place about four or five years ago.

You

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

You have stated that these irregularities in the position of the leaves occur from having altered their position, but how many pages were there at first in that book; and if you do not recollect the number, will there be the same number now, after your changing the position of the pages, as there was before you altered them?—I do not recollect how many there were; but some may, from being torn, be deficient.

There are in this book numbers from 1 to 68; are these pages all in the book, or are any deficient?—Perhaps, from using the book, some may be torn.

Are there any in excess of the number of pages?—How could there be any in excess.

On counting the number of pages, there appears to be 69, and the last number in your book is 68; how is this; how is it that there is one page more than there are numbers?—From the alterations above explained, this page must have been put last, but there cannot be any extra pages.

Have you any other book connected with the accounts contained in this chopra?—If there were, it would be a journal and ledger; but I have no other book; should there be, I shall look for it, and give you a final answer to-morrow.

(signed) *Rewashunkur Anundram.*

Sumvut 1903, Shrawun Wud 14th.
(Wednesday, 8 Sept. 1847.)

No. 11.

Sha Otumdass Sunkurdass, Mooneem of Wukutchund Kooshalchund; *Sha Jummundass Nuggeendass,* Goomashta of Sakurchund Premchund; *Nuthoo Ram Govindram,* Mehta of Wurjbookundass Hurachund; *Sha Moolchund Shewukdass,* Goomashta of Ambaeedass Purshotumdass.

Whereas you called us, and showed to us a chopra, and requested us to examine that chopra, whether the pages have been altered, or whether there is any new writing in it, &c. On this we examined the chopra, and the following appears to us to be the case:

1st. The book is not kept after the manner of sowkars.

2d. The pages of the book have been altered, and one page, No. 15, is not in the book; and on examining the book, we find that it is a book made up of ga,* of 24 leaves each, would give the number of pages in this book 72; but on counting them, there are only 69. Thus there are three leaves missing.

* A certain paper measure.

3d. In this chopra some new writing appears; this we suspect; viz., pages 13, 14, 22, 49, and 50. This is the opinion of us four.

(signed) As above.

Sumvut 1903, Bhadurwa Shood 1st.
(Friday.)

No. 12.

Yadee from *Anuntjee Amurchund.*

The Political Agent asked me about Chela Kachur's son, Ala's, 1,000 rupees. Ala Kachur's men gave to me and Goolabraee 950 rupees, on account of this. I returned to Bolanath, by a hoondee on Rajcote, 900 rupees, and gave him 50 rupees. In this way I returned the 950 rupees. Had I received any more, why should I have given 950 rupees, and kept 50? I gave the same amount back as I received; there can be no mistake about that.

Sumvut 1903, Bhadarwa Shood 7th.

No. 13.

Mehta Bolanath Nanabhaee, Re-examined by Lieutenant J. Black, Acting Second Assistant Political Agent.

Q. How many rupees did Anutjee give you at Joonaghur, and did he give you rupees or korees, or how?—*A.* Jusso Walo caused 950 rupees to be given to me. Jusso Walo said, "There are 1,000 rupees; but Anuntjee said, "There are 950 rupees." Then I received 950 rupees as follows: they were sicca rupees; he ordered his goomashta in Joonaghur, named Kesowjee, to pay me, and Kessewjee gave me a bill on Rajcote; and it was, I think, drawn upon Nursing Pursaud Madoo Rao. I gave the hoondee to Nuthoo Bhut, and sent him to Rajcote. He cashed the bill, and gave the money to Cheta Katchur. Nuthoo Bhut received 950 rupees at Rajcote, and Nuthoo Bhut must recollect about it.

Nuthoo Bhut was here called, and Interrogated.

Q. What was the amount of the bill you received?—*A.* I received a hoondee for 950 rupees.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Anuntjee's yad, No. 12, and chopra, containing the entry of the hoondee for 900 rupees were here read, and shown to the above two persons.

Q. Anuntjee states in that yad, that he gave a bill for 900 rupees, and 50 in cash, and in the chopra only 900 rupees are entered as the amount of the bill; how is this?—*A.* I do not recollect receiving cash.

Nuthoo Bhut here said, "I have accounts at Jusdhun; from these it will appear whether the sum was 900 rupees or 950. I shall send for these accounts, and show them."

These entries occur at page 166 of Nursing Pursaud Madowrow's chopra for Sumvut 1900.

Hattia Veechia Re-examined, in presence of the above two persons.

Q. Did you give Anuntjee 450 rupees, or how many?—*A.* I gave him 500 rupees; he may say what he pleases.

You say you gave 500 rupees, and Anuntjee says he received 450; how can you prove it?—I keep no accounts, therefore I could not prove it. I am ready to swear to it as far as I can recollect; and if Anuntjee wishes to prove it, let him produce his private accounts.

Bolanath here said, "I think I recollect the disposal of 50 rupees; viz., that they were received by me from Kessowjee, and given to the Wukeel Nurberam; this I recollect." Nuthoo Bhut here said, "I also recollect that 50 rupees were given to Nurberam; but on examining my accounts it will be clearly seen."

(signed) *Bolanath Nanabhaee.*
Nuthooram Maljee.
Veechia Hattia.

Sumvut 1903, Bhadurwa Shood 8th.
(Friday, 17 Sept. 1847.)

Mehta Nurberam Sunkeram Examined before Lieutenant J. Black, Acting Second Assistant Political Agent.

Q. Did Chela Kachur's people give you at Joonaghur, in Sumvut 1900, any rupees or korees?—*A.* Bolanath gave me 50 sicca rupees.

From what shop did he pay you?—He gave me 50 rupees from the 950 rupees which he had to receive from Anuntjee.

(signed) *Nurberam Sunkeram.*

17 September 1847.

(True translations.)

(signed) J. Black,
Acting Second Assistant Political Agent.

(True copies.)

(signed) Wm. Lang, Political Agent.

No. 9673.

Minute by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Reid* and the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby*.

In the absence of any substantial proof against Goolabraee, of his having acted in a corrupt manner on the occasion alluded to in this report, no notice need be taken of his conduct further than to intimate to him, that Government trusts that the punishment with which, in another case, it has been lately found requisite to visit him, will have the effect of inducing him to observe the strictest integrity for the future.

2. The Vakeel Rewashunker should, I am of opinion, be dismissed from practising as a vakeel before the political authorities in Kattywar.

(signed) *G. Clerk.*
L. R. Reid.
J. P. Willoughby.

3 December 1847.

No. 9674.

No. 4746 of 1847.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Kattewar.

Sir,

I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 25th September last, No. 131, forwarding translations of the petitions received, and depositions taken, by yourself and your assistant, Lieutenant Black, regarding the payment of money some years ago by Ala Khackur, the young son of the Kattie chief of Jusdhun, in the hope of purchasing thereby the good offices of your native establishment.

2. In

2. In reply, I am desired to observe that in the absence of any substantial proof against Goolabraee, your first assistant karkoon, of his having acted in a corrupt manner on this occasion, no notice need be taken of his conduct further than to intimate to him that Government trusts that the punishment with which it was lately found requisite to visit him in another case will have the effect of inducing him to observe the strictest integrity for the future. Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lail and others.

3. With reference to the Vakeel Rewashunker, the Governor in Council is of opinion that you should dismiss him from practising as a vakeel before the political authorities in Kattewar.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle,
9 December 1847.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 2 February 1848. No. 936.

Government, No. 5 of 1848.—General, No. 11.—Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Kattewar to *A. Malet*, Esq. Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 9th ultimo, directing the dismissal of the late native agent in this province, and sanctioning the appointment of a dufturdar and a sheristadar in his place, I have the honour to inform you that there being no one known to me here whom I consider as yet qualified for the former situation amongst those to whom I could at present offer it, I have selected the present mamlutdar of the Ahmedabad Duskrohee, Thakursee Poonjash, for it, a man with whom I am unacquainted myself, but who has long borne a very high character, and is represented by all the officers to whom I have applied for information regarding him as well calculated in every way for the situation. The appointment of sheristadar I have given to the present sheristadar of the foujdaree department, who has been employed for a very long period in this office, and is an exceedingly steady, well-behaved man. The vacancy in his situation has been filled up by promoting the second assistant's carcoon, whom I have been obliged to employ for some time as my own sheristadar, owing to the suspension of the native agent and first assistant's carcoon. Most of the other carcoons have also got a step upwards, and the junior vacancy has been supplied by an exceedingly well-qualified young man, a relation of the Gaekwar Mugmoodar's family in this province, the dufterdar being unable to join till he has finished his jummabundee. I have also appointed the several carcoons under him to act in the situations superior to their own till he arrives, for all of which arrangements I shall feel obliged by your obtaining for me the sanction of Government. In my report of the 6th January last, I suggested the increase of the pay of the foujdaree sheristadar to 75 rupees per month, on the occurrence of a vacancy in the situation of first carcoon in that department by reducing the salary of his appointment from 40 to 35 rupees; and in your reply of the 11th February following, I was informed that the subject would be taken into consideration on the occurrence of a vacancy, I hope, therefore, that this slight change will also now be approved of.

2. I beg to forward a statement of the salary of the late native agent and the first asssistant's carcoon, from the 11th August last, the day after their suspension, to the 15th ultimo, the date of receipt of your letter under reply; after which the arrangements above reported will come into effect. The saved salary of the foujdaree carcoon lately dismissed is also added, making the total amount *Rs.* 1,621. 14. 2; and as I conclude that neither of these individuals are entitled to any portion of their pay, it would, I think, be but fair that this sum should be distributed amongst those who have had much heavy additional work to perform during this period; and I hope, therefore, that this will be sanctioned as a special case. I beg also to submit a statement of the amount I would recommend in this case to be paid to each of these carcoons, in addition to the pay of his own situation, including that to one new man whom it has been necessary to employ. In the event of this not being sanctioned, however, I shall feel obliged

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

by your obtaining permission for my dividing half the amount to which those acting are entitled according to existing regulations in this manner, each carcon in that case receiving one-half of the sum put down opposite his name, and the remainder being credited as a saving to Government, as I should not be able in any other way fairly to remunerate all those upon whom the extra labour has fallen.

3. With reference to the instructions contained in the fifth para. of your letter, I beg to inform you that, owing to certain intrigues having commenced at Joonaghur to undermine Anutjee's authority as karbaree, I considered it advisable, pending the receipt of your reply, to permit him to return to that place at the end of September, but required him first to give the writing recommended in the 10th para. of my report. This, however, I kept in my own possession without acquainting any of the kucherry people with my having taken it, and I shall return it to him when next he attends at Rajkote, with an explanation of the reasons why Government consider it unnecessary, which may be useful to him as a further warning. He met with a very severe accident soon after his return to Joonaghur by a fall from his horse, which has confined him ever since; but he is quite as much in favour with his Highness the Nawab as ever, and after the lesson he has now received it is to be hoped that he will make a good use of his influence. The circulation of a proclamation forbidding his being employed by any other chief in the province would, I fear, be felt as a stigma by the Nawab, and I hope, therefore, that I may be allowed to dispense with this; as I have written to the Regent Baee of Rajkote to direct his dismissal from employment in the management of that talooka, and can always interfere when the occasion may require it to prevent his being taken into service elsewhere.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Lang*,
Political Agent.

Kattewar Political Agency,
Rajkote, 8 Jan. 1848.

STATEMENT of the Distribution proposed to be made of the Saved Salary of the late Native Agent, the First Assistant's Carcoon, and the Foujdaree Carcoon lately Dismissed, amongst the other Carcoons of the Office upon whom the extra work has fallen, from the Month of August to the 15th of December last inclusive.

NAMES of the PARTIES.	Amount of Rewards to be Awarded.		
	Rs.	*a.*	*p.*
Bapoobhaee Denjasunkur - - -	261	14	2
Dooleraee Rugeonathraee - - -	250	–	–
Purtapraee Mahdawraee - - -	150	–	–
Shreedhurrao Mahdow - - - -	100	–	–
Nanalall Ruveeshunkur - - -	100	–	–
Bhugwuteedass Wrigdass - - -	80	–	–
Muneeshunkur Juttashunker - - -	80	–	–
Mehta Naka Wugeram - - -	80	–	–
Rawjee Chotumlall - - - -	80	–	–
Wrijlall Mudunjee - - - -	60	–	–
Mulshunker Hurnarayen - - -	60	–	–
Nilkuntrao Shreeput - - - -	40	–	–
Madunjee Wugeshunker - - -	40	–	–
Mojeelall Oolutram - - - -	40	–	–
Purtapraee Pranshunker - - -	40	–	–
Bhoowaneeshunkur Goculdass - -	40	–	–
Kandass - - - - - - -	40	–	–
Dilputram Purjaram - - - -	40	–	–
Wan un Rao Govind Rao - - -	40	–	–
Co.'s Rupees	1,621	14	2

SAVING effected in the Salaries of the late Native Agent of this Province, the First Assistant's Carcoon, and one of the Foujdaree Carcoons lately Dismissed, whilst they were under Suspension, during the Months of August, September, October, November, and December.

NAMES of the PARTIES.	Amount of Savings.		
	Rs.	*a.*	*p.*
Bhugwanlall Mudunjee, late Native Agent, his pay from the 11th August (the date subsequent to his suspension) to the 15th December 1847 (the date of his dismissal) inclusive, being four months and five days, at *Rs.* 279. 8. per month - -	1,163	1	3
Extra pay to ditto from the Mohsullee Fund	83	3	7
Goolabraee Umbasunker, carcoon to the First Assistant Political Agent, his pay from the 11th August (the date subsequent to his suspension) to the 15th December 1847 inclusive, being four months and five days, at 75 rupees per month -	312	1	7
Madawraee Pransunker, late carcoon on the Jail Establishment, from the 8th August to 12th November 1847 (the date of his dismissal) inclusive, being three months and six days, at 20 rupees per month - - - - - - -	63	7	9
Co.'s Rupees	1,621	14	2

(Errors excepted.)

Kattewar Political Agency, Rajkote,
8 January 1848.

(signed) *W. Lang*,
Political Agent.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the Honourable Mr. *Reid*, and the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby*.

No. 937.

THE whole of the arrangements reported in para. 1 should be approved, and the requisite departments informed. By the notification of the 22d December 1843, the salary of a dismissed servant ceases from the date of his suspension. The late native agent, Bhugwanlall, and the foujdaree karcoon, Mahdooraee, both being dismissed, are not entitled to any pay from the date of suspension. Goolabraee, the First Assistant's carcoon, has been suspended by order of Government for a term of six months, and during that time will not receive any salary.

I am of opinion that half the pay of these persons for the time indicated by Major Lang should be given to the parties recommended by Major Lang, the remainder being credited to Government.

I think, under all the circumstances of the case, we may attend to Major Lang's recommendation contained in the last para. of his letter.

(signed) *G. Clerk.*
W. Cotton.
L. R. Reid.
25 January 1848. *J. P. Willoughby.*

No. 470 of 1848.—Political Department.

From *Arthur Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Kattewar.

No. 938.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 5, dated the 8th instant, and in reply, to inform you that the Honourable the Governor in Council approves and sanctions the whole of the arrangements proposed in the first para. thereof, in consequence of the dismissal of Bhugwan Lal, the native agent, and Mahdooraee, the foujdaree karcoon, of the Katteewar Agency.

2. I am at the same time desired to refer you to the Government notification of the 22d December 1843, published in the "Official Gazette" of this Presidency of the 28th of that month; and to state that as, under the provisions thereof, the salary of dismissed native servants ceases from the date of suspension, Bhugwan Lall and Mahdooraee are not entitled to any pay from the date of their suspension.

3. The Governor in Council authorises a moiety of the pay of these persons, and of Goolabraee, the First Assistant's carcoon, for the time indicated by you, being distributed among the parties recommended by you, and directs that the other moiety be credited to Government.

4. In regard to Goolabraee, I am further directed to state, that this individual, having been suspended by order of Government for six months, he is not to receive any portion of his salary during this period.

5. With reference to the last para. of your letter, I am instructed to inform you, that under the circumstances stated by you, the Governor in Council authorises the adoption of the course therein recommended with respect to Anuntjee.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle, (signed) *A. Malet*,
31 January 1848. Chief Secretary.

Chargee of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 471 and 472 of 1848.

An extract paras. 1 to 2 of Major Lang's letter No. 5, dated the 8th instant, and paras. 1 to 4 of the above reply of this date, to be sent to the Acting Accountant-general* and the Civil Auditor† for information, with reference to the advice from this department, dated the 9th December 1847, and numbers as per margin.

* No. 4727.
† No. 4726.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 31 January 1848.

(True extract.)

(signed) A. Malet, Chief Secretary.

No. 457*z*.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 29 May 1848.

Government, No. 68 of 1848— General, No. 306.—Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Kattewar to *A. Malet*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

Translations of depositions in an accusation of bribery made against Goolabraee, the first assistant's carkoon, in 1846.

1. I have the honour to forward translations of the depositions taken in an accusation of bribery which was made against Goolabraee Umbashunker, the carkoon then attached to the first assistant, shortly after I returned to Kattywar in 1846. It was to the effect that he had received a bribe of 1,000 rupees from Wala Hathya Oghur, the kattie grassia of Habrya, to assist him in getting a claim advanced by Joonaghur, to a share in his village of Seelana, settled favourably for his interests, and the parties who made the accusation asserted that they could prove it by certain letters of Hathya Wala and his wukeels which they had intercepted from a cossid.

Doubts thrown on the truth of the accusation from the first, by the manner in which it was brought forward.

2. The statement regarding the letters was soon proved to be false, and there appeared to be no reason to doubt that the wukeel Anuntjee Wulubjee had himself made them over to the accusers, who had made up this story to conceal his share in the transaction. This of course threw great suspicion on the accusation itself; and although neither Hathya Wala nor Goolabraee gave to my mind a satisfactory account of what had actually taken place between them with regard to this money, there appeared to be no ground on which to suspect Goolabraee of corruption in the matter, particularly as I ascertained from Captain Aston that the Seelana case had never been in any way in his hands.

Explained both by HathyaWala who was accused of giving the bribe, and Goolabraee, as a pecuniary transaction between them, although they differed greatly as to the nature of it.

3. The Joonaghur share of Seelana is held by an Arab jumadar, named Saleh bin Abood, and Hathya Wala's statement was to the effect that he has arranged to take up the money from Goolabraee as a sowar to be paid to this Jumadar's wukeel for his good offices in the matter, and given him two hoondees for 500 rupees each on Bugusra on account of it. Goolabraee, on the other hand, stated, that having been employed by Hathy Wala as his wukeel, before he got into the service of Government, and heavy claims against him to a considerable amount, he took these hoondees from him, and realised the money on that account; but afterwards, on Hathya Wala's remonstrating with him, and disputing these claims, he had the amount placed in deposit pending a settlement of their accounts. At this time Goolabraee had a share in the firm of Mursing Pursano Mahdooraee, into whose shop this money was paid; but the firm was long afterwards broken up under the instructions received from Government on the subject, and the amount of these hoondees was again, in consequence, transferred to his account.

Statement of Hathya Wala in support of his not owing Goolabraee any balance, and denial.

4. Hathya Wala, in reply to this, denied owing any money to Goolabraee on account of the dealings they had formerly had together, but it appeared that their accounts had never been settled; and it was soon discovered that the main difference between them was with regard to an item of 1,000 rupees, which Hathya Wala declared had been paid to Goolabraee out of a sum of 7,000 rupees,

rupees which he had borrowed in 1837 from Umrit Laul Umurchund on a guaranteed mortgage to pay a debt due to the late Babajee Buchajee, then karbaree of Gondul. Goolabraee as confidently asserted that he had never received this amount, the payment of which would have reduced his claims against Hathya Wala, even by his own accounts, to a few hundred rupees, and consequently showing clearly that the thousand rupees, for which he had appropriated the two hoondees on Begusra, must have been on some other account.

of the latter of having received 1,000 rupees stated to have been formerly paid to him in account.

5. Goolabraee, of his own accord, produced before Captain Aston his private account-book to prove that he had never received the thousand rupees from Babajee Buchajee, and that he had duly credited Hathya Wala with the amount of the two hoondees, which still left a small balance in his favour. Hathya Wala, on the other hand, showed in his account-book, which was not, however, very regularly kept, that out of the 7,000 rupees borrowed in 1837 on the guaranteed mortgage, he had paid 6,000 rupees to Babajee Buchajee, and 1,000 rupees to Goolabraee. There was also an alteration in the account-book of Goolabraee, corresponding, as far as could be made out, with this amount, which made me at the time strongly suspect that Goolabraee must have received the sum asserted by Hathya Wala from Babajee Buchajee.

Goolabraee's private account-book readily produced, and suspicious alteration shown in it.

6. I had hoped, long ere this, to have been able satisfactorily to clear up the doubt thus left by a reference to Babajee's own accounts. These, however, I have not been able to get up to the present time from his widow at Umreilly, and a relation of his, whom I have several times sent to endeavour to get them, appears to think that these, for the period required, are not in her possession. On the failure of Babajee's Gondal arrangements all the account-books and other papers he then had in that talooka were sequestrated by the chief, and when at Dhorajee last monsoon, I had a very careful search made among them for any papers likely to throw light on the transaction. Two entries were found on loose sheets of paper amongst the gondal accounts, showing clearly that Babajee had received the full amount of 7,000 sicca rupees, and that he had credited the Durbar with 23,000 korees received through Umrit Laul from Habrya, which is about equal to that sum at a low rate of exchange. Translations of both these entries are added at the end of the proceedings now submitted, and although I could have wished to have seen the account of this transaction in Babajee Buchajee's own private account-book, none of which were to be found amongst the large mass of records and other papers belonging to him at Dharajee, it appears useless to detain this report any longer in the hope of obtaining any further information on the subject.

I hoped to have been able to have cleared this up by a reference to Babajee Buchajee's accounts, by whom this sum should have been paid. Information obtained from these as far as they have been got hold of.

7. Amrit Laul's accounts likewise show the payment of the full amount of 7,000 rupees to Babajee on account of the guaranteed mortgage, and the proof in favour of Goolabaee's not having received this thousand rupees is therefore as strong as it could be in the absence of Babajee's own private accounts; neither is it probable that Babajee Buchajee, in the embarrassed circumstances in which he then was, should have paid this money to Goolabraee from any other source, and the only way therefore in which I can account for Hathya Wala's very confident assertion that it was paid, and also for the alteration in Goolabraee's account, is by the supposition that it was so arranged in the first instance, but that Babajee's necessities prevented his paying the money to Goolabraee as agreed upon.

This and the other accounts obtained entirely in favour of Goolabraee, and manner of accounting for Hathya Wala's accounts, and the alteration in Goolabraee's.

8. Before Captain Aston's departure for the Cape, I requested him to favour me with his report on the subject, as my own opinion was then, as already stated, unfavourable to Goolabraee. I beg to forward a copy of this, and would recommend that the thousand rupees taken from Hathya Wala should be restored to him, but that we should not further interfere in causing any settlement of the former pecuniary transactions between him and Goolabraee.

Report from Capt. Aston on the subject, and suggestion for disposing of the case.

I have &c.
(signed) *W. Lang*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency, Camp Bate,
5 May 1848.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Forwarded to Mr. Chief Secretary *Malet* with Letter No. 306, Cons. No. 68 : dated 5 May 1848.

No. 1.

Petition from *Appajee Mukund*, now an Inhabitant of Rajkote, to Lieutenant Barr, Second Assistant Political Agent.

I beg to represent that the karbarees here conspired against me and my brother, and oppressed us; and this we have represented to the sirkar, and the sirkar is aware of it; but now I have some information on the subject of bribery to lay before you, the particulars of which are as follows:—The Government karbaree, Goolabraee, is in the habit of receiving bribes. This will be quite apparent from the following reasons. I have in my possession three documents; one of these is in the handwriting of Hattiawala's wukeel, Anutjee Kutchee, and two are written by Hattiawala, and they refer to these transactions. From these it will be seen that he took 1,000 rupees, and asks for 1,000 rupees additional. The particulars are to be found in these papers, and in the book of Sunganee Premchund Bheemjee at page 883, and in the book of Anutjee Damodur at page 815, in the awuras for Sumwut 1899; therefore I hope that you will at once send for Auntjee Kutchee and Hattia Wala, and make a private investigation, and administer to them an oath, and ask them, and immediately attach the above-mentioned books; and in this way you will discover everything, and that he is in the habit of taking bribes in this way from the people, and those who do not give him bribes suffer; and besides these documents, there are many other instances. If you will investigate them, I will give you information, for most people are afraid of these karbarees, and consequently cannot inform you.

(signed) *Appajee Mookund.*

Sumvut 1902, Jetwud 6 (15 June 1846).

No. 2.

Letter from *Auntjee Kutchee*, at Rajcote, to *Hattiawala*, of Halreea.

A. C.

My reason for writing is, that I have received your letter, dated Magsursood 8th. In it you write, "The Seelano business is not progressing. I gave 1,000 rupees, in St. 1899, to Bhaee Goolabraee, but the business is not settled. On this subject I wrote to you when you were at Joonaghur, and again when you were at Rajkote on Chyluwud 8th; and to these letters you merely replied acknowledging receipt, and you keep my letters by you. Very good; but I gave these rupees by hoondees; one was drawn on Anutjee Damodur for 500 rupees; another was drawn on Sunganee Premchund Bheemjee for 500 rupees, and were drawn out by Heera Meganee and Ramseefal of Buggusra. These hoondees I gave into the hand of Raja Shree Goolabraee. The entries of them are in the sowkar's books, and my brothers all know this. They are now getting impatient, and say if our business is not settled, we will go and take it back. If they do, there will be an exposure; therefore I enclose to you a letter to give to Rajashree, and read yours to him also. Such is the tenor of your letter." I gave the Rajashree your letter to him, and then mine, and he tore them both up, saying this business is being conducted at the Motee Bungalow; it is not with me; give 1,000 rupees additional, and the business will be done. Thus he said; therefore you must tell your brothers that there would be no good in taking it back. No doubt the mohsuls are still imposed, and will remain, but in the end they must give; and as long as Anutjee is karbaree of Joonaghur, he is the karbaree here* also; therefore I have no influence. It will be difficult to retain the giras shared by Jetpoor Beelkan, Buggasra, &c., with Joonaghur; therefore, if you please, bring with you 1,000 rupees, and give it in the same way as you did before, and I am hopeful the business will prosper. With regard to the letters which you say I keep by me, I send you these two enclosed in this. Read this letter, and tear them all up.

Political Agency.

* With the Political Agent.

Sumvut 1902, Magsursood 13.

Make mention of me to Wundrawund.

No. 3.

From *Hattiawala*, at Halreea, to *Anutjee Wullubjee*, at Joonaghur.

A. C.

My reason for writing is this: you sent a message to me through Manjreea Hummeer, requesting me to send some one to Goolabraee Raja Shree to Gogeh, and I did so. He answered, that he had sent an answer regarding the business to Madow Raee Umbashunkur at Rajkote, and referred me to him. If you write to me to send a person to Rajkote, I will do so; or if you tell me to go myself, I will do so. Give me your answer. How long do you intend remaining at Joonaghur, and when do you intend going to Rajkote? Send me word

word as to this. Moreover, great delay takes place in our business, and expenses are incurred. Take these matters under consideration, and reply to them. Moreover, if at present other matters occupy the time, and our business is not attended to, then write. Keep matters in their present state; do not allow our business to retrograde. Write to me in reply after due consideration. I have no reason to write anything more to you. Send me a reply in return.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Sumvut 1901, Chytursood 13 (Saturday).

Wundrawandass sends his compliments.

No. 4.

From *Hattiawala*, at Halreea, to *Anutjee Wullabjee*, at Rajkote.

A. C.

Your letter reached me per Boreecha Wago, and I have read it. You write that my business is in Rajashree Goolabraee's hands; that if I influence him, the business will prosper. Thus you write, but nothing has been done in our business, and the mohsul has not been removed. How can I then answer my brothers, and they press me, and say nothing has been done for the rupees; and if these rupees are to be allowed to remain in his hands, then give us a discharge. Thus my brothers say, and they are very impatient with me. If I do not answer them satisfactorily, they will all go to Rajkote, and I shall be disgraced. This is the reason of my writing to you from time to time, but I am unwilling to write to you; but the hoondee which I wrote must have been sent here, and I have, through another sowkar, paid the hoondee to the sowkar on whom I drew it. The entries of it too must be in his books, and the payment was made to the sowcar in presence of my brothers. Thus it is no secret; therefore they press me for a release; but I will do as you direct me, and if 1,000 or 500 rupees more are required to effect this settlement, I shall do what I can. Read this letter to the Raja Shree, and obtain a reply from him, and reply quickly, otherwise I shall be disgraced. [Two or three words occur here which cannot be made out.] You know how I am situated, and can act as you think best. I have written this letter on our subject. Read it, and afterwards tear it up.

8th Cheetr Wud, 1901.

No. 5.

Appajee Mookund Purboo, Hindoo, aged about 29 years, servant, at present residing at Rajkote, states before Lieutenant J. Black, Third Assistant Political Agent:

About 14 months ago I seized from a kossid three papers connected with bribery; by reading them you will understand the transaction, that Goolabraee received something from Hattiawala.

Here three papers formerly given by Appa were shown to him, and he replied These three papers are the papers I allude to; these papers I gave to you (Lieutenant Black); Anutjee Kutchee must have heard that these papers had come into my possession; he consequently sent a message to me through Reta Wora to the effect that if I held any papers of his, to give them back; to this I replied to Keha Wora, there is no necessity for my giving them back to him; if the sirkar asks him about it, he must tell the truth, for it is plain that Goolabraee has taken bribes, therefore tell him he will repent it should he tell anything but the truth.

Question. When these papers came into your possession, what did you say to Keta Wora?—*Answer.* I told him that I had got them from a kossid; I told him nothing more.

Does Keta Wora know where these papers came from?—He knows that they were got from the kossid.

Did you take them from the kossid by force, or how?—I took them by force.

How did you know that these papers were in the kossid's possession?—Some one whose name I do not recollect told me.

Did Hattiawala know at the time of your getting these papers?—I do not know; I went about a month afterwards to Than, taking the papers with me, and two months have elapsed since I returned.

By whom were these papers given to the kossid?—By Anutjee Kutchee, and I heard from some one whose name I do not recollect that Anutjee Kutchee had written a reply to Hattiawala's letter.

Did you tell Anutjee at the time you seized the letters, or afterwards, and if so, where?—I told him about 10 or 12 days ago; Anutjee was at the time sitting at the Agency Bungalow, and Ketawora was sitting near; I do not know that I told him before.

What did Anutjee say when you showed him the papers?—At that time he did not say anything.

Does Hattiawala know anything about this business?—I do not know, and I am not acquainted with Hattiawala.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Did you show Anutjee his own letter and the other two, or how?—I showed it to him from a little distance, but I did not give it into his hands.

Anutjee here said, "Appa and I have never had any conversation with each other."

Appa here said, "Anutjee told me that the writing was his, and that if he were asked by the sirkar, he would not deny it."

Sumvut, 1902, Jetwud 9th. (signed) *Appajee Mokund.*
(17 June 1846.)

Continued before Lieutenant Black.

About two months ago Keta Wora gave me the letter written by Anutjee Kutchee; that addressed to Hattiawala, also two letters from Hattiawala to Anutjee; on this becoming known Anutjee sent Keta Wora to get these papers from me, but I did not give them; and again 10 or 12 days after Anutjee sent Keta Wora to me, to the agency bungalow, to request that I would give up the papers, or show it to him; I showed them to him from a short distance, but did not give him them.

Did you know anything of this matter before the papers came into your hands?—Yes; Keta Wora told me that he had got some letters on the subject of bribes.

Where were you, and was anyone present when he gave these papers to you?—There was no one present; Keta Wora gave me them at his own house.

Did you ask Keta Wora where and how he had got these papers?—I asked him, but he said, That is no business of yours, you are to say you got them from a kossid.

Were you not suspicious when Keta Wora refused to tell you where he had got the papers from?—I said to him at that time, Why do not you come forward with this information? To this he replied, It is no matter of mine; you must be informer; I shall join you.

Sumvut, 1902, Jetwud 10th (18 June 1846).

No. 6.

Anutjee Wullubjee, Hindoo, Nagur Wur Nuggra, aged 46 years, Wukeel, now residing in Rajcote, states before Lieutenant J. Black, Third Assistant Political Agent:

Question. Is this letter in your handwriting (*the Letter, No. 2, was here shown*)?—*Answer.* Yes, it is.

How did that letter come into the possession of the sirkar?—I wrote it, and gave it into the hands of one of Hattiawala's men.

To which of Hattiawala's men did you give the letter?—To either of the two Brahmins, Soonderjee or Kursunjee, who are always in the habit of bringing and taking letters.

Give the name of the one to whom you gave this letter?—He is an old man, who rides on a white mare.

When did the Brahmin leave your house with the letter?—He left my house about seven o'clock, A. M.

Explain what is meant by writing about money in that letter?—Hattiawala wrote to me and desired me to ask Goolabraee what was to be done in the Seelano case, for that his brothers were impatient, and then I asked Goolabraee; he replied, I did not take any rupees on account of the Seelano case.

When did you know that that letter had been lost?—Fifteen days ago, when I was at the agency bungalow, Keta Wora said, "Your letter has been seized." At that time a Deckany was sitting there, and that paper I did not see before.

Did he mention this to you only once?—He mentioned it only once.

When Keta Wora told you, was any other person present; was Appa there?—No other persons were there except Keta Wora and myself; Appa was at a short distance from us, and Keta Wora did not say that any other person was present.

Was the paper shown to you?—No, it was not; I know nothing about Sale Jamedar's wukeel's business.

When Keta Wora told you of the letter, did you ask him how he had got it?—Keta Wora told me that he had heard that the paper had been found.

Did you, upon Keta Wora's informing you of this, tell Hattiawala?—No, I did not.

Did you receive any answer to that letter from Hattiawala?—I shall make inquiries, and find out. Anutjee then said, No, I received no answer.

How was this letter intercepted?—It may have been done in three ways. The Brahmin may have lost it; some one may have stolen it from the Brahmin, or it may have been taken from Hattiawala's house.

Sumvut 1902, Jetwud 9th (17th June 1846). (signed) *Anutjee Wullubjee.*

Continued before Lieutenant J. Black.

Hatteewala's letter, dated Magsursood 8th, was received by me when I was at Captain Aston's bungalow; enclosed in it was a letter to Goolabraee, which I gave him, and the two letters which were to my address I kept; in them there were no paragraphs concerning hoondees; to this I replied on 13th Magsursood, and sent it to Habria, and Keta Wora told me to put the letters received into my pocket, and said he would do all he could to have the papers shown to the Political Agent.

uestion.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Question. Did you read these papers to Keta Wora?—*Answer.* While I was reading them he may have been overlooking me; he asked me what was in the letter. I replied, it is a matter of 1,000 rupees. He said on this put them in your pocket, and I kept them for three or four days in my pocket, and then placed them in my house, and I then lost them. Ketta Wora thought they were in my house, but I was of opinion that I had given them to him, and I searched my house for them, but without finding them.

Did you write any reply to these letters?—Yes, I did.

When did you give these three letters to Keta Wora?—He took them away in Magsur month, and he was to have given information then.

You write in your letter respecting two hoondees; on what account were these hoondees to be given to Goolabraee; was it on account of the Seelano case, or how?—When I went to ask Goolabraee about the Seelano case, he told me that if I would give 1,000 rupees more the business would progress; thus he told me, and Hattiawalla wrote to me from Halria that he had given 1,000 rupees to Goolabraee on account of Seelano case, but that nothing has been done, and Goolabraee said, The case is being conducted at the Agency, therefore in order that the business may be settled, another sum of 1,000 rupees are requisite.

Did any one come to you yesterday on the part of Goolabraee, or did Hattiawala come to you?—No, Goolabraee tore up the letter which was addressed to him immediately after perusal.

Did you receive a letter from Hattiawala of Halria, dated 8th Magsursood?—Yes, I did.

When Goolabraee made some arrangements with Hattiawala regarding money matters, were you then the wukeel of Hattiawala, and if so, do you know about it, and do you know anything about the giving of rupees to the wukeel of Sale Jemadar?—Money matters are not investigated by the sirkar; disputes between talookdars are heard, but I did not know that any agreement had been made to give Sale Jemadar's wukeel rupees, at the time I heard of it, in Sumvut 1901.

Sumvut 1902, Jetwud 10th. (signed) *Anutjee Wullubjee.*
(18 June 1846.)

No. 7.

Ketsee Gela, Hindoo, Wanya Modh, aged 33 years, Wukeel, inhabitant of Rajkote, states before Lieut. J. Black, Third Assistant Political Agent.

A few days ago Appajee Mookund told me he had got some papers in which it was written 500 rupees drawn on Anutjee Damodur, and 500 rupees on Sunganee Premchund Bheemjee, and that I must do all I could to find out who is credited in their books with the amount, for that Goolabraee's name was in the paper; that I must make every inquiry, and tell him. He told me that he had got the papers in either of two ways; either he found them, or he took them from a cossid. I saw the papers. I have a shop, and in the course of transacting business I saw the entries in the sowcar's books, and the rupees were credited to Nursung Pursand Madow Raee, under whose name Goolabraee's firm is known; these entries occur at page 815 of the awuro of Anutjee Damodur, and at page 883 of Sunganee Premchund Bheemjee's awuro, and in Anutjee Damodur's awuro, Man Heera Meganee, of Bugusra, is debited; Nursing Pursand Madow Raee is credited, and in Sanganee Premchund Bheenjee's books Nursing Pursand Madow Raee is credited, and the hoondee is drawn out by Ramshee Pol, of Bugusra, and is debited to Beehur Soorchund, of Umreily. This, as above stated, I saw, and told Appajee.

Question. Did you ever show these papers to Anutjee Kutchee?—*Answer.* After seeing the above chopras, Appajee said to Anutjee Kutchee that he had in his possession a letter in his handwriting, that if he denied it, there was the letter, at the same time showing it to him; I was present at the time, and Anutjee said to me, Return to me that paper, and I said, The documents are in his hands; how would he give them on my telling him to do so?

At that time how many papers did he show?—He showed three, viz., two of Hattiawala, and one of Anutjee.

Did you show to Anutjee his own letter?—Anutjee's letter was shown to him at a distance.

Anutjee here said, He told me about it, but did not show it.

Sumvut 1902, Jetwud 9th (17 June 1846).

Continued before Lieutenant J. Black.

About the 13th Magsursood of the present year, when Anutjee Kutchee and I were at Captain Aston's house, an old Brahmin of Halria came, bringing with him letters; he gave one to Anutjee Kutchee, and Anutjee Kutchee gave one to Goolabraee, and Anutjee opened his own letter and read it; in it Hattiawala wrote, "I have given Goolabraee a hoondee on Anutjee Damodur for 500 rupees, and another on Premchund Bheemjee for 500 rupees; tell him to give these rupees back or settle my business; many months have now

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

now elapsed, and nothing has been done about the Seelano case, and the Mohsuls remain on me, and if it cannot be done for that amount, give other 500 or 1,000 rupees. I have written a letter on this subject to Goolabraee, which give to him and send me a reply." The letter was to that effect, then Anutjee said to me, "In this manner he takes money from the people and does not attend to their business, and ruins the poor talookdars." I said, "He writes to you in the present instance, saying that he has on several occasions written to you. but that you have not answered his letters. Did he mention having given bribes in any of these letters?" To this he replied, "Yes, I have got some of his former letters." "Then," I said, "let that paper be taken straight to the sirkar." He then said, "Noorooddeen's case fell to the ground, so would this, therefore let it stand until some other Sahib comes." Thus the matter for the time ended; then when Captain Lang came, I spoke to Anutjee about showing the papers to the sirkar, saying, "If you will now show that paper, there will be an investigation." Then Anutjee told me to look at the sowkars books mentioned by Hattiawala, and tell him about it; in that letter it was written, that the hoondees had come in St. 1899, in the month of Badurwa; I therefore examined the books for that year of both the sowcars, and I found Madow Raee, in whose name Goolabraee's shop was credited, and on this I determined to show Hattiawala's papers; but I was afraid if I did so myself that I would incur the displeasure of my caste and countrymen generally. I therefore planned a scheme by which I thought my character would not suffer, which was to pretend that the papers had been found; for this purpose Anutjee wrote a letter to Hattiawala and enclosed these two letters, and gave them to me, but I did not like to present them, and therefore did not do so; but when Appa came to me, I told him, and he said he was not afraid, that if I would give them to him he would present them; on this I gave them to Appa, and Hattiawala's letters are true, and he gave the rupees; but this affair having become known, Goolabraee has caused Hattiawala to be talked over to say that he had given these rupees on account of some money transactions of theirs, and when Captain Lang commenced to take Anutjee Kutchee's statement at the Political Agency, I was outside in the verandah, a peon came from within and called Hattiawala, but he was not present; on this Govindjee, who is the friend of Goolabraee, wrote a note and gave it to Sakurlal, who is Goolabraee's son-in-law; he immediately went to Hattiawala's house, this could be clearly proved if you will call each of them separately and ask them. Sakurlal left the bungalow and went on foot to the milk bush hedge, there he was met by his servant leading his mare and saying something about Hattiawala; he rode off, therefore I suspected he was going there, I therefore followed him; he went into the new house opposite the temple called Beer Bungin; after seeing this, I went home. Sakurlal must have persuaded Hattiawala at that time; that night passed, and next day until 12 o'clock noon; Hattiawala was in the house of Goolabraee's friend, Anutjee Amurchund, he then came to the sirkar and gave his statement, therefore he must have stated whatever they told him to do. And again, yesterday after his leaving this house, Hattiawala went at night to Anutjee Amurchund's house, and he and Anutjee and Mukhunshaw sat in the upper story, and held a conference together; when they were there, I went to Anutjee Amurchund's house; a Joonaghur sepahee was sitting at the doorway on guard, he told me no one was allowed to go up to the upper room, then I returned home; when I was there I heard the voices of Mukhunshaw and Hattiawala; the circumstance of these papers being found was known generally about 15 days ago; Anutjee Kutchee then told me that as it had become known, it would be well if I would give back the papers; afterwards Appa brought the papers to the bungalow and showed them to Anutjee Kutchee, who requested they might be restored to him, but this Appa refused to do, and Hattiawala, a few days ago, told Anutjee Kutchee that some one on the part of Goolabraee had requested him to say, with reference to the papers which had been found, that he had given the money on account of a money transaction, or to be given to some other person, and asked which he should say; Anutjee Kutchee must have given him an answer; this Anutjee Kutchee told me that they were talking over Hattiawala; thus Hattiawala must have stated in his deposition; but if you will allow his deposition to be read to me, I shall put such queries to him as will show that it is false. I have heard that Goolabraee accepts of bribes, and I have seen some entries in certain books; this I would inform you of, but Goolabraee is very powerful, and he has many friends who would prevent the charges being proved, and owing to his influence people would not tell the truth; therefore if you wish to investigate the matter, you must send for the persons whom I name, and immediately take their statements, and attach the books; in this way the matter will come to light; if this is not done, and the investigation is not carried on actively, the charges will not be proved; then should the sirkar order me to prove it, I was not present when anything was given or received, and can only state what I have seen and heard, and if you please, I can show this. My reason for not writing a full statement yesterday was, that in this province any one would be disgraced who would inform on the subject of bribery, and I should incur the enmity of this mota hakim (influential person); and thus I, who am a poor man, would be ruined; for that reason I did not give a statement; and as you told me to-day to give a plain statement, I have done so. Anutjee Kutchee is, through various relationships, the connexion of Goolabraee. At first he told about this, but now, owing to his being a connexion, and being persuaded by some one, he is trying to screen Goolabraee, therefore you must promise Anutjee protection, and tell him not to be influenced in what he says by any one, and to tell the truth.

Golabraee.

Question.

Question. Where is the letter which arrived when you were at Captain Aston's?—*Answer.* I asked Anutjee Kutchee for it, but he said he had not got it; but it was dated Magsursood, 8th, Sumvut 1902, Jetwud 10th (18th June 1846).

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwan Lall and others.

(signed) *Wera Kersee.*

No. 8.

Hattia Ogur, Hindoo, Kattee Wala, aged about 47 years, Girassia, and inhabitant of Habria, states, before Lieutenant J. Black, Third Assistant Political Agent.

I HEARD yesterday that letters written by me and my wukeel had been found by some one, and you now ask me whether I and Goolabraee have any money transactions with each other; to this I reply, that we have had dealings since 1894.

Question. Did you ever write to your wukeel on the subject of giving anything to Goolabraee to carry on your business?—*Answer.* The wukeel of Sale Jemadar was my opponent; and my cousin, Hummeer, and that wukeel were on good terms; on that account I sent through him a message to the wukeel that I would give him a few rupees if he would cause the mohsul imposed on account of the Seelana dispute to be removed; then that Jemadar's wukeel said, "I will take 1,000 rupees, and do what is necessary to prevent the dispute being actively carried on, and to use persuasions with the Jemadar." I then went to Goolabraee, and told him to give me 1,000 rupees, that I wanted them. Goolabraee then said, "I have not received the rupees." To this I replied, "I will draw a bill on Bugusra at one month's sight, and give it to you, if you will discount it, and give the proceeds to me after deducting interest for one month." Goolabraee then said, "I do not wish any interest but on the expiry of the time for which the bill is drawn, and on its being paid I shall give you the money." On this I gave him hoondees, which were paid within a month, and I sent a person to receive the money. To this he replied, "I have not as yet been advised of the hoondees being paid; you must also inquire whether these hoondees have been paid;" thus he replied; then the person I sent returned, and told me this. I then told Majreea Hummeer, my cousin, to go to the wukeel of Jemadar Sale at Joonaghur, and make certain about the agreement, and when certain about it, to pay the money. He went there; and at first he agreed to it, and then refused to do so, saying he could not do it, for that he would lose his situation. I then made inquiries at Bugusra, and found that the money had been paid on the bills, and that the money had been paid to Madow Raee. Then I sent a person here with a message to say that I would not do it, and to give me back my rupees. Then Goolabraee said the rupees must have been received, but examine your accounts, and if you have any claim, then take the money; thus he told the person I sent; and he came and told me; on this I wrote a letter to my wukeel, Anutjee, stating that 1,000 rupees of mine were in the hands of Goolabraee, and that my (Bhaees) relations at Seelana were pressing me, and the Mohsullee dues were increasing; thus I wrote to him; if you will show the letter which has been found, you will then know this.

In what year did you claim these rupees from Goolabraee?—In the rainy season of Sumvut 1899.

In your letter you write that if 1,000 or 500 rupees additional are requisite for the business, that you will see about it, and you request that that letter may be read to Raja Shree, and that an answer may be sent quickly; explain this, and who is the Raja Shree?—Raja Shree is Goolabraee. I had told Goolabraee, when I claimed the 1,000 rupees from him, that this sum of 1,000 rupees was to be given to Jemadar Sale's wukeel; and afterwards I thought that in case any more money should be necessary for the accomplishment of this object, I would ask Goolabraee.

In that letter you introduce the name of Goolabraee; was he concerned in the arrangement between you and Jemadar Sale's wukeel?—He knew of the arrangement between myself and the wukeel, therefore his name is written.

When were your letters seized; and did your wukeel ever tell you when and how this happened?—If they were taken, they were taken from my wukeel; they were not taken from any of my men. Anutjee told me yesterday that our letters had been given to the sirkar, and he said, "I have been asked, and you will also be asked about them."

Did you ask Anutjee how they had fallen into the possession of the sirkar?—No, I did not; I asked merely what sort of papers they were; to this Anutjee replied, "I have not read them."

Anutjee writes in that letter, replying to yours about having given 1,000 rupees, to Goolabraee; to whom did you give these rupees?—I did not give them; these rupees refer to those I have above mentioned.

It is written in Anutjee's letter that Golabraee told him that the case was not in his hands, but at the Political Agency; that if another sum of 1,000 rupees were given, the business would be taken in hand; to what business does he refer?—I do not know; that letter never reached me.

Was the Seelana case in the course of being investigated by Captain Aston?—It was, at the Political Agency.

What case was in the Political Agent's hands?—The Seelana case was in Mr. Malet's hands, and whether Captain Aston gave any orders on the case I do not know; Anutjee does.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

If about one or one and a half years ago your wukeel had lost any papers, would you not have heard of it from him when it happened?—The wukeel from enmity did not tell me.

Is there any dispute or bad feeling between you and Anutjee?—There is none, but whether any enemy of mine has caused him to alter his conduct towards me, he knows.

Goolabraee knew about the agreement to give Jemadar Sale's wukeel the rupees, then did you receive the rupees from him and give them to the wukeel?—Goolabraee did not give the rupees, he gave me credit for them; I gave two hoondees.

Yesterday, when Anutjee Kutchee spoke to you on this subject, was any one present, and where were you?—No one was present; he told me in the verandah of his own house.

You had arranged to receive from Goolabraee 1,000 rupees, to be given to Jemadar Sale's wukeel, and you did not take them; will Goolabraee have given you credit for that sum in his account?—He knows; on looking at his books that will be seen.

Have you got any entry of these rupees in your books?—I keep an account, but as these rupees were the common property of my bhaees, I did not enter them; my brothers are coming here in a few days, I will then show you the accounts.

About 14 months ago, did your Brahmin come to you and tell you of the loss of any papers?—He never told me that he had lost them, or that they had been stolen from him.

Sumvut 1902, Jetwud 9th (17 June 1846).

(signed) *Wala Hattea Ogur.*

Continued on the 18th June before Lieutenant J. Black.

Did you on the 8th Magsursood write to Goolabraee, or did you, during that month, send a letter to Goolabraee, and one to your wukeel, by your Brahmin?—I do not recollect.

On what account did you give 1,000 rupees to Goolabraee, and when Goolabraee was at Gogeh who did you send to him?—There are two or three Brahmins; one of them went, and, as I yesterday stated, the money I paid was on account of what I owed him.

For what purpose did the Brahmin go to Gogeh?—He (Goolabraee) claimed a balance, and kept these rupees on that account; it was for that reason I sent him, but I do not recollect when I sent him.

Is Majreea Hummeer in your service?—He died about four or five months ago.

Did any one come the day before yesterday on horseback to give you information regarding the proceedings at the Agency bungalow?—Jyto Koteelo came and told me that the Political Agent called me.

Did Sakurlab come?—No, he did not.

Did you yesterday, in the forenoon or evening, go to Anutjee Karbaree's house?—I go there daily.

Last night, when you, Anutjee Umurchund, and Muckunshaw were sitting in Anutjee's upper room, who were present besides the above-mentioned?—Govindjee was there, and Sukurlal came, but went away again.

What did Hummer Majreea tell you after his return from Joonaghur, where you had sent him?—I do not recollect; but I did send him.

Who was the Brahmin who brought a letter for your wukeel in the Magsur month?—Soondurjee came.

Is your wukeel Anutjee's statement correct or not?—I wrote to Anutjee that I had given 1,000 rupees on account of the Seelana case, and that up to that time nothing had been done, and that if a further sum of 500 rupees were necessary for the accomplishment of the business to arrange, that my bhaees were all very anxious; this I wrote, and it was in my letter dated Magsur.

Where is the answer to that letter which Anutjee Kutchee sent by the Brahmin?—If it has been received, it must be in my house.

What were the contents of your letter of Magsur Sood 8th?—I do not recollect.

Was it concerning money?—I wrote, asking why he kept the common money.

When you wrote that letter, was the balance in your, or in Goolabraee's favour?—It was in my favour.

In Sumvut 1899 you had a claim against Goolabraee; subsequent to that date had you any money transactions?—I was of opinion that he owed me, whereas he thought I was in his debt. Our accounts were not adjusted; after that we had no money transactions together.

After St. 1899, are there any entries in the chopras of transactions between you and Madow Raee and Goolabraee?—No.

In the letter dated Magsursood 8th, did you write concerning the giving of anything to Goolabraee with reference to the Seelana case?—Something was to be given to Sale Jemedar's wukeel with reference to the Seelana case; it was intended as a bribe to cause the mohsul to be removed.

Do Goolabraee and the Joonaghur wukeel know anything about the agreement to give these rupees to the Jemadar's wukeel?—Goolabraee knows; the Joonaghur wukeel does not know.

Is that case conducted in the name of the Nuwab of Joonaghur, or that of the Jemadar?—It is conducted in the name of Joonaghur.

Did

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Did you write a letter to Goolabraee on the 8th of Magsursood?—Yes, I did.

When you took the rupees to give to the wukeel of Jemadar Sale, did you give them to the wukeel or to Goolabraee?—I did not at that time take the rupees. I gave two hoondies to Goolabraee, and then went away; and Goolabraee said, "When these hoondies are paid send a man for the money."

When you gave these hoondees to Golabraee, was Sale Jemadar's wukeel here?—Yes, he was; I saw him, but I do not recollect his name.

Anutjee here said, "His name is Myashunker." Hattiawala then said, "His name is Myashunker."

How did you and Sale, Jemadar's wukeel, arrange about the money?—It was not arranged by me, but by Majree Hummeer, who is dead.

When you gave the hoondees and went away, did you tell Anutjee what arrangement had been made?—No; I neither told him, nor did I send any one to tell him.

You did not know about the agreement that Hummeer made; then how could you have any confidence in the matter?—Hummeer was my connexion; and he arranged that the wukeel should receive 1,000 rupees, and that he would do all he could to remove the moshul by talking over the jemadar; thus he told the wukeel, and afterwards told me also, and of this Goolabraee is aware.

Did you write these two hoondees for 1,000 rupees, here, or were they sent from Buggusra?—I wrote them here in my name; they were drawn upon Mung Ramsher Pob and Heera Meganee.

Were these the hondees you gave to Goolabraee?—Yes; and they were written during the rainy season; I do not recollect what month.

At the time you wrote these accounts where did you get your provisions?—From Waljee Tollia; I am not quite sure; Nuttoo Kenjer also furnishes my provisions.

Did you leave soon after writing the hoondees, or when?—I do not recollect.

Sumvut 1902, Jetwud 10th (June 1846). (signed) *Hattiawala.*

Continued before Captain Lang, Acting Political Agent.

You gave these rupees in St. 1899, and your two letters are dated St. 1901, in the month Chytur; had you at any time before this claimed that money?—Majreea Hummeer used to go to Rajkote, and I was in the custom of sending messages about it through him: and when Goolabraee was at Rajkote, I used to send my messages through this man to Goolabraee.

When Goolabraee was employed by you as your wukeel, had you any dealings together?—Yes, we had dealings, and there are entries of these dealings up to St. 1899; after that we had no transactions.

According to these accounts, does he owe you or do you owe him anything?—In my opinion, and according to my accounts, he owes me; but he says I am in his debt, but he does not adjust accounts.

Goolabraee has kept your 1,000 rupees; taking these to account, does Goolabraee say you owe him anything?—Goolabraee says, that after placing these rupees to account, he may have a claim of 200 rupees; or, on the other hand, he may be owing me 200 rupees.

Did Goolabraee ever ask for the money before taking the 1,000 rupees?—He used to say I owed him something, and asked me for it; I told him that he owed me, and asked him to adjust accounts.

Why did you place the money intended for the wukeel of Sale Jemadar in deposit with Goolabraee?—When the arrangement was made with the wukeel, it was stipulated that the money should be deposited with some sowcar or other, and that he would then prevail on the jemadar and get the mohsuls removed; thus Hummeer told me, and I therefore placed the rupees in deposit with Goolabraee.

For how long previous to the money being deposited had this arrangement been talked of?—For one month.

The wukeel of Sale Jemadar agreed to the terms; then what was his reason for afterwards refusing?—After the wukeel went to Joonaghur, I sent Hummeer after him, and he then refused; saying, "If I take the money, and it comes to be known, I should be ruined."

Did that wukeel give the name of any sowkar in particular?—No, he did not mention any one in particular; so Hummeer told me.

At that time Goolabraee was on his own account demanding money from you; then why did you not deposit the money with some disinterested sowcar?—I had no want of confidence in Goolabraee; I do not know the other sowcars, therefore placed the money with him.

In the month Chytur of last year you wrote two letters on that subject; did you ever afterwards write to Anutjee or Goolabraee for the money?—I do not recollect; but I write to Goolabraee. I must have written along with that very letter.*

As above-mentioned, you sent a person to Gogeh; for what purpose, and when did you send him?—It must have been in St. 1899 or 1900; it was about that time I sent a person about these very rupees; and I recollect it was previous to the writing of these letters which you now show me.

* Anutjee's.

18 June 1846. (signed) *Wala Hattia.*

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 9.

Goolabraee Umbashunker, Karkoon, states before Captain W. Lang, Acting Political Agent.

Question. State the circumstances connected with your receiving two hoondees for 500 rupees each from Hattiawala of Halreea, in St. 1899?—*Answer.* Hattiawala owed me in his private account with me money, and I used continually to remind him of it, and I must have written to him several times on that subject. To this he used to say, "I'll pay you when we adjust accounts." In this way three or four years passed away; and he also took from me a copy of his account, and in the above-mentioned year Hattiawala came here, when I renewed my demand on him, but he did not settle, but I took from him two hoondees which he had and gave them to the goomashta of the firm of Nursing Pursaud Madow Raee, and these hoondees were sent to Buggusra, and from thence they were returned here, one to Anutjee Damodur and one to Premchund Bheemjee, and by them they were paid into Nursing Pursaud's shop, and put to my credit; and after Hattiawala told me to keep these rupees in deposit until the accounts should be adjusted, and I then agreed to this. But afterwards, either at the Dewalee, or at that very time when the goomashta was adjusting the accounts of the firm, I caused the money to be entered at the credit of Madow Row as a deposit. About eight or ten months after, when the firm was dissolved and the profits divided, I took these rupees, and gave Hattiawala credit from them in my own chopra.

For what purpose had Hattiawala brought these hoondees?—He must have brought them for some purpose of his own, not for me; but I heard that he had brought them, and I took them from him.

Were those hoondees which were drawn on the sowcars of Buggusra by Hattiawala written at your request here, or were they lying by him?—They were lying by him.

How did you take these hoondees from him?—They were tied in the string of his angruka when he came to my house, and I took them, and he gave them.

At that time did Hattiawala acknowledge your claim that he should give you the hoondees?—He said at that time, "I will adjust our accounts and give you them, but nothing will be owing to you." The hoondees, however, being in my hand, I said I would keep them in deposit.

If you promised to place them in deposit, why did you afterwards place them at your own credit?—I gave the hoondees on Bugusra to the goomastha, with the intention of crediting them as a deposit when they were paid; and when the hoondees were sent to Rajkote from Bugusra, the goomashta of the firm, without asking me on the subject, placed them to my credit; and about four or five weeks afterwards, about the Dewalee, when the accounts were made up, the money was taken out of my account and credited to Modow Raee. At that time Hattiawala was not here, but I did so according to promise.

When the accounts of the firm were wound up, and you caused the money to be placed at your credit, did you inform Hattiawala of your doing so, or did he tell you to do so?—I did it of my own accord; for certainly, on making out accounts, he would be in my debt.

In whose name was the hoondee made payable; was it payable to you or any other person?—I think it was payable to sha (the bearer).

How was it so great a difference arose in your accounts, that he should suppose, before he gave you these rupees that he was not indebted to you; and you, on the other hand, after receiving these rupees, supposed that you would then even have a claim against him?—Hattiawala said that he had borrowed from Manicklal Purboolal, on the security of a bond, the sum of 7,000 rupees in order to pay Babbajee Buchajee, and that out of these 7,000 rupees he had caused Umrutlal to give me 1,000 rupees. Thus Hattiawalla said, but Umrutlal never gave me these rupees; and Babbajee Buchajee took the whole amount from Umrutlal, and showed that sum in his accounts to the Sirkar; and Hattiawala has credited Umrutlal with 7,000 rupees, but he has not written in his accounts that he caused 1,000 rupees of this to be given to me, and he has not credited me with 798 rupees owing for interest. After giving me credit for these two sums, our accounts will then be nearly balanced; and should any mistake have occurred, by making up our accounts it will appear.

In the book which you now produce, in Hattiawala's account, at two or three places the entries where 300 rupees are entered have been scratched; how is this?—It must have been done to alter the amount; I do not recollect, but that sum was received from Shakur Veljee Mooljee.

Look well at that entry, and endeavour to recollect how that entry stood at first?—It is not in my handwriting, therefore I cannot say; but proof of it will be found in the books of Thakur Veljee Mooljee.

In what year did he tell (Manuklal) to give you 1,000 rupees of the bond of 7,000 rupees?—It must have been the same year as the bond is dated, viz, St. 1894.

Is that entry which bears the marks of erasure not an entry of the 1,000 rupees?—It is not written by me, therefore I do not recollect for certain.

Can the correction be accounted for in the following manner, viz., that you had received that money from some person, and that person afterwards gave that sum to another?—I did not receive that sum, neither did he cause that sum to be given to any one by me, that it should be corrected; and it certainly was not corrected on that account.

18 June 1846. (signed) *Goolabraee Umbashuker.*

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 10.

From *Gurdurlal Oolutram* to Captain *W. Lang*.

We, as under-mentioned, viz., Sha Mowjee Herjee, Thakur Govindjee Veljee, Sha Deojee Kurumchund, Mung Kessowjee Lukmeechund, and Thukur Soondurjee Ladanee, have, as requested by you, examined the Guzerattee chopree with reference to one of the entries being altered or not; the first figure of the entry has been altered. It seems from the total of the addition below to have been first 1,300, and, if so, there is a balance of *Rs.* 453. 2. 6.; and if that entry which has been altered into 300 rupees is correct, then the balance would be *Rs.* 1,453. 2. 6. What we have stated above is the opinion of us all. It is as follows: the first entry which has been altered is a sum of 300 rupees; it appears to be 1,300 rupees, and the entry of 2,000 rupees which has been corrected appears to have been 1,000 rupees; and the entry of 300 rupees in one of the items of this entry is correct, and these two entries together amount to 1,300 rupees, and the balance appears to be *Rs.* 453. 2. 6.

Sunwut 1902, Badurwa Shood 14th (4 September 1846).
Written by Gurdurlal.

(signed) *Sha Mowjee Heerjee.* *Mung Kesowjee Lukmunchund.*
Thakur Govindjee Veljee. *Thukur Soonderjee Ladanee.*
Sha Deojee Kurrumchund.

From *Babajee Buchajee*, at Rajkote, to *Raja Shree Goolabraee Umbashunker*, at Limree.

My reason for writing is as follows: a new mootalib has been drawn out for Halria, but the Political Agent says that after the old mootalib is cancelled the new one shall be given. On making up my accounts according to the old agreement, I find that *Rs.* 11,805. 4. 0. are owing to me, which includes interest; and on crediting the amount of the new mootalib of 7,000 rupees, a balance of *Rs.* 4,805. 4. will remain due to me. With respect to this balance, we agreed that any balance of 1,000 or 500 rupees should be allowed to lie over, on security being given; but the balance on making up the accounts is much greater than that, and I have therefore enclosed to you in this letter a statement of our accounts. Look over them, and let me know what you think about them, and send a security bond for the amount which we were to allow to lie over for private adjustment; and as for the balance, send me an order for it on Anutjee Bhaee. Whatever money I may have taken up through your agency, deduct the same; and send an order for the balance on Anutjee Umurchund, and I shall close our former accounts, and receive the mootalib from the Political Agent, and hand it over. Send an answer quickly by the bearer; for Anutjee presses me for the mootalib, and I am urged to go to Goondul Dorajee; therefore send your reply by the kossid. Compliments, &c.

St. 1894, Poswud 5th (Monday). Written by Wucheroj, who sends his compliments.

A letter is enclosed, and addressed to Radunpoor; send it to Umrutlal's Umooluk's shop in Limree, to be forwarded.

(signed) *Babajee Buchajee.*

Dulputram sends his compliments; a separate letter is sent to you, with all the news in it.

From *Goolabraee Umbashunkur*, at Limree, to *Babajee Buchajee*, at Rajkote.

A. C.

Your letter on the subject of the Halreea money transactions was received by me on the 9th of Wud, from a cossid. You have not until now written to me for a long time; you write regarding a bond having been executed for 7,000 rupees, and securities for the balance. To this I beg to reply that the accounts were shown to you at Porebunder, and the bond was then agreed to. At that time a balance of about 6,000, or less, appeared in your favour; and if any errors have occurred in the accounts, your claim will hold good a hundred years hence. On examining the accounts you will discover this; therefore accept of 6,000 rupees, and cancel the bond. Should, by mistake, any item have been omitted, Hattiawala will not refuse you your rights; besides I am a party to the transaction. In a few days I shall wait upon you, wherever you may be, to adjust the accounts, when we may settle this point. But your not cancelling your bond prevents another bond from being entered into, and I am far from home; therefore be so kind as to oblige me in this matter. I have stated above all I have to write on this subject; I await your pleasure; I have confidence in you; be pleased to write.

Post Wud 9th, Shookurwar P. M.

I send my compliments to Wucheraj Panachund. I sent the letter which you enclosed to its destination, &c. &c. I send my compliments to Dulputram Jala.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

From *Goolabraee Umbashunkur* to Captain *W. Lang*.

A. C.

Mr. Barr showed me the copy of a letter, and requested me to give an explanation regarding it. My reply is as follows: This paper is a copy, but from the contents, it must have been written by me. I have, in that letter to Babajee written, about taking 6,000 rupees. I was, as it were, Hattiawala's principal wukeel, and must have on that account written in this manner; for Hattiawala did not at that time, nor does he now, acknowledge that 7,000 rupees are owing, and I must have on his part thus written in reply, but I cannot now recollect what happened ten years ago. But as far as I can understand, and on looking at this letter, Babajee would appear to have claimed more than the amount of the bond for 7,000 rupees; therefore I was obliged to write thus in reply. Babajee must have refused to accept of the 6,000 rupees, and must have received the 7,000 rupees before giving up the bond, and it must have been done with Hattiawala's knowledge. These rupees belonged to Umrutlal, and he must have given credit to Babajee for that amount in account, and sent the bond to the sirkar. These rupees did not pass through my hands, and I did not give them to Babajee. From my being thus engaged in Hattiawala's affairs, I have incurred the displeasure of the sirkar; all suspicions, however, will be removed, provided Babajee's agent will show his accounts. Therefore be pleased to order the person who produced this letter to show his accounts. This is my petition.

Sumvut 1903, Cheytur Sood 7th (Tuesday, 23 March 1847).

(True translations.)

(signed) *J. Black*,
Acting Second Assistant Political Agent.

(True copy.)

(signed) Wm. Lang, Political Agent.

Extract Copy from *Babajee Buchajee's* Account. Memorandum of *Wala Hattia Ogur's* Account, including Interest, from St. 1889 to St. 1895, Kartig Shood 2d, in Rupees.

Dr.		*Cr.*
	1894.	
	Mahashood 2. By Sicca Rupees, 7,000.	

Babajee Buchajee, in Account with *Doragee*.

Cr.		1894.	*Dr.*
To amount on account of Halria korees, debited to Umrutlal.	23,000	By amount received from Hattiawala, debited to Umrutlal for 7,000 sicca rupees = about 23,000 korees.	

True translation.

(signed) *J. Black*,
Acting Second Assistant Political Agent.

(True copy.)

(signed) Wm. Lang, Political Agent.

From Captain *H. Aston*, First Assistant Political Agent, to Captain *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

1. I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the packet of Goozerattee documents, relating to the case of the accusation, in June last, against your First Assistant's mehta, Goolabraee Umbashunkur, of having taken a bribe of 1,000 rupees from the Kattie Hateea Wala, to procure the favourable settlement of the Shilana case. Having received these papers only a few days before my embarkation for Bombay, when I had still other pressing matters in hand to be disposed of, if possible, before I left, I was unable to do more than take notes of the contents of these papers before I departed; but, in compliance with your request, I now beg to lay before you such remarks and observations as have occurred to me on the subject of this accusation. The circumstances under which I write, at sea, in ill health, subject to ceaseless interruptions; the records in the case, too, being incomplete, or requiring references for elucidation, prevent my writing a complete report; but these circumstances will, I trust, plead my excuse for the imperfectness of what I may write on the occasion.

2. Previous

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

2. Previous to this accusation, I had heard of the return of Nooroo Deen's agents, Ruseekdass, and Yakoob Khan, from Bombay; of the arrival in Rajcote of agents from the Joonaghur caballers, whose former analogous proceedings are notorious; and of the renewed activity of other old caballers in Rajcote, which led me naturally to look upon the present accusation, when I heard of it, as a mere continuation of the like doings of the old party, in an attempt under the new Political Agent, to keep up the hopes of their party, and continue their influence by perpetuating agitations in which their names should be prominent, and displaying a power to alarm with threats and calumnies those against whom their interested aims instigated them to direct their operations. In this opinion I was afterwards confirmed on learning that the wukeels, Kheta Wora and Unutjee Wulubjee, were the contrivers of the present proceedings, and that Bapoojee Nookund (wukeel of Nooroo Deen and Mudhar Sing, in the former like proceedings above referred to), and his brother, Appajee Mookund, and Ato Hoosein, confidential retainer of Nooroo Deen and Mankhan, the infamous character already described in the public records, and Rajaram Bhao, the proscribed farmer of Drappa, a Deccanee, and Govindrao, another Deccanee, brother-in-law of Narain Rao Karkoon, under the superintendent of the Guicowar's contingent: that these, and others probably, were concerned in it.

3. They had engaged for their special instruments, in bringing forward the matter, Appajee Mookund, and a Banyan adventurer, named Peetamber. Appajee Mookund's readiness for the service may be found explained, in his being brother to Bapoojee Mookund, Nooroo Deen's wukeel, in exposure of whose willingness to be made an instrument of infamy I had about a fortnight before written that public letter, of which, to facilitate reference, I have annexed a copy. Both these brothers, too, had, a few months before, been ejected from the house in which they resided in Rajcote, in consequence of this house (which belonged to Bapoajee Mookund's wife's father, Baba Wuseekur) having been attached by Rajcote, on account of unsettled claims; and the party are ever wont to attribute all the acts offensive to them, of the Rajcote chief, to Unutjee, the Karbaree, and to affect to identify Unutjee in this respect with the Political Agent's establishment.

4. The Banyan adventurer, Peetambur, had formerly assisted Mr. Frere, who had lately been appointed Political Agent in Katteewar, in acquiring Goozerattee; and reckoning upon his favour, expecting that he would immediately proceed to Rajcote, he hastened to that place, in expectation of getting appointed to some situation on the Political Agent's establishment. He brought with him an introduction to myself from the late General Kennedy, and was by me, in consequence, brought to the notice of the late Political Agent. But Mr. Frere not joining, this Peetamber became apparently impatient of delay; and in haste to make some opening that did not spontaneously offer, became the mouthpiece of the caballers, and introduced the subject of their accusation to the third assistant, Lieutenant Black, whom he was at the time assisting to acquire a knowledge of Guzerattee.

5. It is worthy of remark, this their introducing the matter through your junior assistant, whose officiating mehta at the time was Naka Wujeram, the intimate acquaintance of Kheta Wora, one of the contrivers of the accusation.

6. These men, having selected certain entries in Sahookar's chopras for their purpose, adopted their stories accordingly, and produced letters, said to have been intercepted, purporting to have been written by Hatteea Wala and his wukeel, Unutjee Wulubjee, in corroboration. It is unnecessary for me to enter into a detailed examination of the stories and letters, as I believe no doubt exists that they are fabrications, except perhaps, that letter from Huteea Wala, dated A. D. 1845, April 20, (St. 1901, Chueter Sood 13, Saturday,) in which, unlike the other letters attributed to Hateea Wala, the writer's name, Wundrawundass Veerjee, is mentioned. This letter can give no support to their stories, and has perhaps been introduced with the rest to give colour to genuineness of the whole. One of the entries alluded to is in the books of the shop of Doolubjee Moolshunker, who has long been said to mutter subdued accusations against some one of the Political Agent's establishment for taking a bribe. Possibly this entry relates to it.

7. The greatest improbability of the accusation was at once suggested by there being no discoverable motive for bribing Goolabraee Umbashunkur for offices in the Shelana case, as he never had anything to do with it, either directly or indirectly, it never having been out of the hands of the Political Agent and the native agent. The accusers saw this difficulty, and endeavoured to evade it. It were useless, however, to expose in detail their inconsistencies, as I believe no impression can be left upon your mind but that there is nothing that they have said that is deserving of the slightest credit. I pass on, therefore, to the story of Hateea Wala himself, and the documentary evidence.

8. Hateea Wala, who would hardly have originated a proceeding so infamous, yet cannot be believed so far in advance of his countrymen in integrity as not to avail himself of circumstances presented, which promise considerable pecuniary advantage, without any risk in lessening the balance of his account with a wukeel or karbaree. It appears therefore, probable, that he may have lent himself on this occasion to give some countenance to the accusations by a middle course. Before proceeding further, however, I will preface Hateea Wala's statement with an account of the circumstances connected with his dealings with Goolabraee Umbashunkur, that led to the disputed account between them.

9. Goolabraee Umbashunkur, previous to being employed permanently on the Political Agent's establishment, was employed by various persons as a wukeel or agent; and Hateea Wala employed him as such from A.D. 1831–32 to A.D. 1837–38. His allowance for his services

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

services was nominally 75 rupees per annum. Besides this allowance, he received some presents, as usual, and he lent his employer money at interest. There was, as is common, a running account between them. On being placed permanently on the Political Agent's establishment, or before, Goolabraee relinquished Hateea Wala's service, and was succeeded therein by Unutjeee Wulubjee, one of the present accusers, for whom he says he procured the situation, he being a distant connexion of Goolabraee Umbashunker.

10. During the time that Goolabraee was Hateea Wala's agent, he was also employed as an agent of Umritlaul, who was then concerned in the management of the affairs of Joonaghur; and while he was thus their common agent, Hateea Wala borrowed on mortgage the sum of 7,000 rupees from Umritlaul (in the name of Umritlaul's nephew), under the guarantee of the British Government, to pay to Babajee Buchajee, karbarree of Gondul, in liquidation of a debt. The interest named in the guaranteed mortgage was 10/16 per cent. per month, or $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum; but in consideration of Goolabraee's services in procuring the loan, Hateea Wala privately agreed to give him an additional 6/16ths per cent. per month, or $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per annum. This additional interest amounted eventually to 798 rupees.

11. Hateea Wala, in due course, paid the guaranteed debt and interest, but the 798 rupees additional interest remained unpaid; and, as Goolabraee asserts, he reiterated, from time to time, solicitations to Hateea Wala to make up their account, and have it settled, but he ever evaded doing so. In September 1843, however, he ascertained that Hateea Wala had come to Rajcoté with hoondees, or with authority to draw hoondees, for 1,000 rupees. They were, perhaps, intended for some other purpose; but by solicitations he prevailed upon him to hand them over to him, to be placed in deposit until this account should be made up and settled.

12. Goolabraee, it may be remembered, had at this time a share in the profits of the banking concern of Narsing Pursaud Mahdooraee, at Rajcote, though he did not interfere directly in the management of the concern. To their shop he sent the two hoondees for 500 rupees each, received from Hateea Wala, and they were entered by the goomashta on the 15th September 1843, in Goolabraee's account. But when the account was made up at the Dewalee, and shown to Goolabraee, he directed the same to be transferred to the deposit account of the firm.

13. It may be further remembered, that in consequence of the orders of Government, directing that Goolabraee withdraw from all connexion with banking concerns, he withdrew from connexion with this firm of Narsing Pursaud Madhooraee, as already reported, on the 31st July 1844, and the affairs were wound up, and the profits divided at the following Dewalee in October 1844. The firm thus becoming extinct, the deposit of 1,000 rupees above-mentioned was handed over to Goolabraee.

14. All the entries in sahookar's books of the payments, deposit, and transfer of this 1,000 rupees, as above stated, are quite regular and unsuspicious; and the books, like all other documents connected with the matter, have been produced without the slightest hesitation.

15. On the other hand, Hateea Wala asserts, that he gave these hoondees to the Political Agent's mehta, Goolabraee Umbashunker, to be kept in deposit as a conditional bribe for the wukeel of the jemadar of Shilana to play his master false, and get the case settled as Hateea Wala wished. Hateea Wala names a dead Kattie, who was employed to negociate this bribe with the jemadar's wukeel, so that every direct clue to test the truth of his story is of course cut off. The great improbability of Hateea Wala's giving money to a Government mehta to bribe a third person is obvious, and this improbability is greatly heightened by the fact that the Government mehta in question had nothing whatever, directly or indirectly, to do with the matter in the proceedings of the case; and if it could be shown, that in the account between them, there would be no considerable balance either way, as seems probable, had this 1,000 rupees been indeed given to Goolabraee, and that Goolabraee had previously received less by 1,000 rupees than Hateea Wala asserts he received, there would seem little remaining to doubt the correctness of this mehta's statement.

16. Now, regarding the account between Hateea Wala and Goolabraee, previous to this transaction, Hateea Wala, in support of his assertion that there was no balance against him when he placed the hoondees for 1,000 rupees in Goolabraee's hands, declares that, out of the 7,000 rupees due and owing to Umritlaul, only 6,000 rupees was to have been paid to Babajee Buchajee, and that the remaining 1,000 rupees was to have been paid to Goolabraee by Umritlaul. It is easy and convenient to assert, now that Babajee Buchajee is dead, that he had intended to remit 1,000 rupees of Hateea Wala's to him. But whatever may have been said by Babajee Buchajee to induce Hateea Wala to mortgage his lands for 7,000 rupees, it is hardly probable that this man, who was then struggling with pecuniary difficulties, would have remitted 1,000 rupees of a debt of 7,000 rupees, after he had secured the recovery of the full amount. Goolabraee denies it; and Umritlaul's accounts of the time support his denial. There is also on record an acknowledgment of Babajee Buchajee's, that he had received his 7,000 rupees.

17. To corroborate his assertion that the 1,000 rupees was paid to Goolabraee by Umritlaul, Hateea Wala produces a chopra which, in my hearing, he distinctly stated to be the original record of his dealings with Goolabraee; and yet this chopra I find contains internal evidence of being spurious, and, as is therefore fairly inferable, made up for the occasion. The proof appears complete. Thus the item 1,000 rupees, as paid to Goolabraee by Umritlaul,

laul, is duly entered. This was in A.D. 1837–38 (St. 1894); yet immediately following this there is an account with Goolabraee, commencing A.D. 1831–32 (St. 1888); and further, the item of 1,000 rupees follows immediately after an entry for 300 rupees, which was certainly paid to Goolabraee from Weljee Mooljee's shop in A.D. 1839–40 (St. 1896) in the month Chuetr, about two years and four months before the date of the item which it follows. Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

18. It is remarkable that Hateea Wala asserts, that one month after the negotiation for bribing the wukeel took place, he deposited the hoondees for 1,000 rupees with Goolabraee, the proceeds to be paid to the said wukeel; yet when these hoondees had been cashed one month afterwards, Hateea Wala sent for the cash for himself. Afterwards, when the wukeel refused to play his master false, Hateea Wala demanded the cash from Goolabraee, and received for answer, that on their account being made up, the balance might be paid. Subsequent to this, he says he wrote to his own wukeel, Unutjee Wulubjee, to say, that he would give 500 rupees, in addition to the above-mentioned 1,000 rupees already given, for effecting his object in the Shilana business, as if this 1,000 rupees had already been paid, or was still in deposit available for payment.

19. Hateea Wala admits that previous to the receipt of these hoondees for 1,000 rupees, Goolabraee had claimed a balance against him, but that their account had not been made up.

20. It only remains to notice the private account book of Goolabraee, which it is proper to remark was produced without any hesitation. In this book the 1,000 rupees received from the shop of Narsing Pursad Mahdooraee is duly entered. It is the last item in the account with Hateea Wala. There are some alterations in a previous entry; but the fact of this entry being in the hand-writing of an acquintance named Boolakeram, and its agreement with a similar entry in the books of Doolubjee Wulubjee's shop, would leave no doubt in my mind of its correctness, unless there were stronger gronnds to call in question the truth of Goolabraee's statement than I can find on record.

21. Goolabraee has expressed his willingness to have the disputed account settled by reference to a punchayut, or in any other way that you may deem just and proper.

I have, &c.

At Sea,
12 January 1847.

(signed) *Henry Aston*,
First Assist. Pol. Agent.

(Service.)

From Captain *H. Aston*, First Assistant Political Agent, to Captain *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

1. It is not unknown to you, that for some years a feud existed between the katties of Bheemora on the one side, and Choteela and Anundpoor on the other; and though their mutual enmity is restrained from breaking out in acts of violence, yet it still continues, and would incite the parties to any acts of annoyance short of rendering themselves liable to serious punishment by the British power. Bapoojee Mookund.

2. In 1844, about October, Bheemora could have made Anundpoor responsible for a robbery, by asserting the tracing of the robbers to that place. An intercepted letter was, however, produced, addressed by Bhoj Khacher, then at Rajcote, to his brother Humeer Khacher, at Bheemora, acknowledging the receipt of a letter, and stating that particulars had not been specified, but that he would carry on the case before the Political Agent, and instructing him to send to Sunosra, an intermediate village, to tell the grassia not to deny that the traces were brought to that place; and further, that if any one come from Anundpoor, he must be told that 1,200 or 1,250 rupees had been carried off. This letter was in the handwriting of Bapoojee Mookund, who, at the time the letter professed to be written (Asoo Sood 3rd, St. 1901), was the karbaree of the Bheemora kattees, but had been discharged before the letter was produced by the Anundpoor party, to expose the practices of the Bheemora katties.

3. One of the conditions of recovering wultur imposed upon Bheemora, being to disprove the genuineness of the letter in question, the katties of this place, about June 1845 (St. 1901, Asar Shood 2), handed in a letter from this Bapoojee Mookund, denying that he ever wrote any letter whatever addressed by Bhoj Khacher to his brother Humeer Khachur.

4. That the letter thus disowned by Bapoojee Mookund is a forgery does not appear to be within the range of probability. His handwriting is well known, and there are numerous papers of his writing on the records of the Political Agent, and there is nothing in the handwriting of the letter that suggests a doubt that it was from his pen. Moreover, the letter of the Bheemora katties inclosing this disavowing letter of their former karbaree (by one of those mistakes, as I suppose, which are so often detected in similar practices), states that it is written by the same person who wrote the letter therein disavowed.

5. It is not, however, to propose any special proceedings against the offender (in a case which the circumstantial evidence of similarity of handwriting is all the proof that can be expected) that I have thus publicly brought the matter to your notice, but to exhibit the kind

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

kind of acts that this individual is willing to lend himself to, and to furnish another example of the character of the agency by which Nooroodeen and others were last year assisted in their conspiracy against the Political Agent's native establishment.

6. This Bapoojee Mookund, I have before brought to the notice of the Political Agent in that letter written specially on the subject of the persons connected with Noorooden's accusations against his native establishment last year, he having been employed as a wukeel by Nooroodeen, and by Mudarsing. He is son-in-law of a discontented character, Baba Wusseekur, one of whose daughters was married to Madooraee, who formerly held the situation of the First Assistant Political Agent's mehta, from which he was dismissed for misconduct, corruption I believe; and his place is now filled by Goolabraee. The other daughter was married to Bapoojee Mookund. They are of that class introduced into the province under the auspices of the Baroda authorities, known here under the general term of Deccaness; of the same caste as Sudasheorao Dewajee, lately dismissed from Joonaghur, in 1844, for being concerned in a conspiracy against the Political Agent's native establishment. They are all viewed as foreigners.

I have, &c.

3 June 1846. (signed) *H. Aston*
First Political Agent.

(True copy.)

(signed) W. Lang, Political Agent.

No. 4573. MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby*.

I SEE no reason to doubt the accuracy of Major Lang's views on this case, which, as far as concerns the reception of a bribe by Goolabraee Ambashunkur, seems entirely without foundation.

It is desirable that in any future case of a wakeel being selected for Government employ, his accounts with his former principals should be settled; or, at least, the amount defined previous to his nomination.

(signed) *Falkland.*
W. Cotton.
23 May 1848. *J. P. Willoughby.*

No. 4574. No. 2,262 of 1848.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 5th instant, No. 68, reporting on an accusation preferred against your First Assistant's karkoon, Goolabraee Ambashunker, of his having, in 1846, accepted a bribe of 1,000 rupees from Wala Hathya Oghur, the kattie grassia of Habreea.

2. In reply, I am directed to inform you that the Right Honourable the Governor in Council sees no reason to doubt the accuracy of your views on this case; which, as far as concerns the reception of a bribe by Goolabraee, seems entirely without foundation.

3. I am on this occasion directed to inform you that it is desirable that in any future case of a wukeel being selected for Government employ, his accounts with his former principals should be settled; or, at least, the amount defined previous to his nomination.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
27 May 1848.

(True extract.)

(signed) A. Malet, Chief Secretary.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 9985.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 6 December 1848.

Substance of a Petition from *Kusulsung Umarsung*, Inhabitant of Moujee Surpudar, Prant Kattiawar, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council; dated 6th and received 21st October 1848.

Regarding Government to be just and equitable, several poor persons represented their circumstances to it, as well as the authorities in Kattiawar, and the proceeds of Bhugwanlal Goolabroy, Anundjee, Umrutlal, Munishunkur, and other Joonagur Nagurs, were distinctly proved to be oppressive. Other cases were then stayed, and the case of corruption at Rajcote having been proved, Bhugwanlal was only dismissed the service; although the charge of bribery has been proved against Goolabroy and others, the case has been stayed; and they continue to hold their office. They therefore subject the poor people to various hardships, and exact bribes from them. They ill-treat the people who preferred charges of corruption against them, and do not allow the poor to obtain redress. This is surprising, and I therefore beg to submit the following particulars:

1. As Goolabroy conducts business before the Political Agent, he misrepresents matters to him, and ill-treats the parties who preferred charges of corruption. The people therefore much repent having made the complaints. They were at first backward in preferring their complaints; but when they were satisfied of meeting with attention from Government, they submitted their complaints. Bhugwanlal alone has been dismissed on account of the Rajcote case. No other case is, however, inquired into; all the other cases are laying over. If Government will not listen to the charges of corruption against these persons, the poor people will have no remedy left to them. No inquiry is instituted into the hardships to which the poor are unjustly subjected. The reason of this is as follows: whenever any person attempts to submit a case to the Political Agent, Goolabroy misrepresents matters to the latter, or suppresses some documents, or delays the disposal of the case. He is thus enabled to fabricate his explanation. In consequence of this no one ventures to come forward.

2. Munishunker, who is the sherustedar of Lieutenant Black, the Assistant Political Agent, is a nephew of Bhugwanlal; Lieutenant Black places full confidence in him, and gives such orders as he dictates. Vurujlal, who is a brother of Bhugwanlal, recives an allowance as goomasta to the Mujmoodar of Jhallawar, but he does not perform the duties of that office, but those of the Foujdaree department. In this manner the duties of the different offices are managed; as they are all related to each other, they are combined together, and ruin any person who ventures to oppose them. In consequence of this, no one will come forward to make a full representation to the Political Agent. There are cases lying over for a long time, but they are not fully inquired into. If any more charges were to be preferred, they would only create further ill-will. The people are therefore obliged to keep quiet. Lieutenant Barr, the First Assistant Political Agent, also places full confidence in Goolabroy, Munishunkur, and others. As they served under him for a long time, they have become well acquainted with his temper, and manage to get their business done by him. If a person prefers a charge of corruption against them, and if it is referred to Lieutenant Barr, he, instead of fully and fairly inquiring into it, holds out threats to the complainant, in order that no other person may complain against them; what can the poor people do then?

3. Anundjee Umurchund, the chief karbharee of Joonagur, conducted the business at Rajcote. He had also the management of many other talookas. He, however, did not reside at the places of which he had the management, but had it conducted through his men. He resided at Joonagur; meanwhile, as it was proved in the Rajcote case that he had acted as a broker in getting bribes for the above-mentioned Government karbarees, orders were given prohibiting him from conducting his business at Rajcote, and from managing the other talookas. He was, however, permitted to have the management of the affairs at Joonagur. This is surprising. Anundjee having been proved guilty of irregular acts, proclamations were issued against his employment by any talookdars. Mr. Malet wrote to Government, and had the proclamations cancelled in the hope that Anundjee would reform his conduct in future; this, however, has not been the case. Annundjee having been proved a second time guilty of the above public offence, has been prohibited from interfering with any other talookas but the Joonagur. This is to be greatly regretted; a Government offender should not be employed in any place, nor should he be permitted to conduct any Government business. No attention is, however, paid to this point; as he is one of the above-mentioned party of Government karbarees, he acts on behalf of the talookdars and others in the cases against the karbharees, and ill-treats many poor persons; he still continues to procure bribes for the karbarees as before; his men, Sudashunkur, Vunarsee, Hureepursad, and other Nagurs, continue to conduct business at Rajcote as before; the Baee of Rajcote consults him, and does nothing without his advice. I have got evidence to prove this; and I am ready to submit it, if an inquiry be instituted into the matter. Government has issued orders not to allow Anundjee to have any connexion with the Durbar at Rajcote, but they are not attended to, and his men are, as stated above, permitted to conduct the business; although there is an order from Government directing another person to be employed in his place as karbharee at Rajcote, no person has as yet been

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

been nominated to succeed him. I do not know why Government does not inquire into this matter. Anundjee conducts the business at Kotra through one Gunga Mahta, brother-in-law of Goolabroy, in the same way as he manages that at Rajcote; in like manner he carries on the business at Paletana and other places through his agents; but no inquiry is instituted into the matter.

4. Although there is a charge against the Jupteedar Roodurjee on account of an opium case, still he is permitted to continue in his situation; when he came to Rajcote he obtained leave of absence for 20 days from Lieutenant Barr, and went to Joonagur; about seven months have since elapsed, but he has not yet returned to his office, but continues to draw his full salary. He now manages the business of the treasury of the Joonagur Nowab in conjunction with the criminal Bhugwanlal, who has been dismissed the service. The Political Agent is well aware of this. In order to settle the boundary dispute with the village of Jhalunsur, talooka Gondul, Munshunkur, nephew of Bhugwanlal, was sent on the part of Government; Anundjee and Bhugwanlal appeared on behalf of the Nowab, and Doolubhjee came on behalf of the Gondul Durbar. After the dispute had been settled, all the parties signed the award and submitted it to Government, with a plan. The Gondul Durbar suffered a great loss by this, as all the parties deceitfully combined together and made the settlement; no inquiry is, however, made into it. There was a person, by name Wilkinson, in the English department; as he resigned the Government service, and entered into that of the thakoor of Bhownuggur, the Political Agent made a reference to Government, and on the receipt of its instructions issued a takeed to the thakoor of Bhownuggur not to keep him in his employ. Persons who had formerly been dismissed the Government service on suspicion, and who were afterwards employed by some talookdars and merchants, were caused to be dismissed by the Political Agent as soon as he came to know of their employment. In this manner the Political Agent possesses authority to dismiss Government offenders, or persons of irregular conduct, from the talookdar's service. He, however, does not attend to cases which require his particular attention, but attends to those which do not require it.

5. The following are the particulars of the charges of corruption against Goolabroy and others, which have remained uninquired into for a long time:

1st. Melroojee, the thakore of Gowridur, gave a bribe of 500 rupees.

2d. Kusulsung, a bhayat of Vula, gave a bribe of 2,000 rupees.

3d. The geerasias of Mothuk, a village of Talooka Bhagdura, gave a bribe of 500 rupees.

4th. Shet Jubhur, the late karbharee of Junagur, gave a bribe of 900 rupees, consisting of jewels (gold), ornaments, pootlees, &c.

5th. A bribe was received from Vaysoor, a pupil of Jusdhuna Khanchur.

6th. A bribe was received from Chooranee Baee Jetheba.

7th. A bribe was received from Chooranee Baee Bajuray.

8th. A share of the profits (arising from the sale of the opium which the opium farmer of Joonagur was got to smuggle) was received as a bribe.

The above cases remain to be inquired into; and I have some more to bring to notice; but still the above-mentioned persons are continued in their situations. As the cases against them are not yet inquired into, and as they are not removed from their situations, the people are much afraid. I have also therefore refrained from bringing the other cases to notice; I am ready to make them known, if Government wish me to do so; if the above-mentioned cases be disposed of soon, I shall bring the others to the notice of Government.

6. When Anundjee Amurchund was entrusted with the management of the Joonagur state through Government, he passed a writing to the effect that Government should be "bahandur" for his management for three years; that during that period he shall be responsible for any loss which might be occasioned to the Nowab's state, or to the British Government, or for any case of corruption; and that if he should fail to give satisfactory explanation, he would submit to any punishment which Government might inflict on him; nevertheless he acted dishonestly in many instances during the above period, and several cases are known to Government. I have got some more cases to bring to notice.

7. I beg to enclose herein the original letter in Bhugwanlal's handwriting, to the address of Amrutlal, brother of Anundjee, which I found on the road. This letter appears to have been written with a view to have matters misrepresented to the Political Agent, and to get the business done by deceit. It will appear from this letter that these people have combined together and fabricated various things. Having entered the service of the Nowab, and having received thousands of rupees as bribes, Bhugwanlal has made several statements against him. It is stated in the letter that Lieutenant Black should go to inquire into the robbery case, and that he should take Muni (that is, Munishunkur) with him. Many other things are stated in it, and, on a consideration thereof, your Lordship in Council will perceive that these people combined together in every case, and practise frauds. When they have their kind sahebs to inquire into cases, or when their relations are the sherustedars, they can practise any fraud they like. When a case is fair, it is immaterial who inquires into it.

8. The

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

8. The robbers who murdered Mr. Lock, of the cavalry, are not the persons who have been seized. If Government will institute a full inquiry the facts will be known. Some mekranees were seized and imprisoned at Porebunder; one of them who died had been seized on the fabrications of Anuntjee, who wishes to show off his services to the Political Agent, and to have the interdict against allowing him a chair to sit, removed. Several murders have been committed in this country, and as the Nagurs are concerned therein, no inquiry is made regarding them. As long as an inquiry is not made, and the offenders are not punished, there will be no peace and order in the country. The Jam Suheb lately committed a murder or two in Tulnuggur, but no notice has been taken of the matter. Whenever the Political Agent goes, corruption is resorted to, and murders are committed; I therefore pray that the dishonest acts of above-mentioned Nagurs may be inquired into, and that they may be dismissed; unless this is done, the poor cannot be happy. If Government will not inquire into the above charges of corruption against Goolubroy and others, I have no remedy left to me. The charges have not been preferred by one person alone. If Government will not listen to the complaints, I beg that the complained may be removed to some other zilla; if they remain here they will bear enmity towards the poor, and injure them. Anundjee's men still continue to manage the affairs of the talookas with which he has been prohibited from interfering; I therefore pray that they may be removed from those talookas. These people manage the affairs of the talookdars, perform the business of the Political Agent's office, and are also entrusted with attachments in the talookas; why can they not join together and commit frauds. One Ghela Anundrum, who is a vakeel in the Durbar at Rajcote, has got a firm in his name in the bazar, and Anundjee and Goolabroy have shares in it. This firm had to receive a debt from Premchund Bhimjee; as he failed, he did not pay the debts he owed to several persons; he had to receive debts from some persons, and mohauls were therefore issued against them from the Rajcote Durbar, and the money which was thus recovered was received in payment of Anundjee's private claim and the debt due to the above firm. When these proceedings came to the knowledge of the Political Agent, the Nuggurs, with a view to preventing the matter from being investigated, had a letter presented, in the name of the Nowab of Joonagur, to the effect that bills had been given on Bombay in payment of the tribute payable by Joonagur, but that as they had been dishonoured and returned, he, the Nowab, claimed the amount from Premchund Bhimjee. If the matter be carefully inquired into the frauds will be known.

P.S.—Anundjee receives direct the orders which are issued to the Nowab of Joonagur, and replies to them according to his own wishes. In consequence of this the Nowab's state is subjected to loss; although there are charges of corruption against Goolabroy, he continues to receive inams and nuzranas through his cousin. It is surprising that no inquiry is instituted into the matter.

(signed) *C. J. Erskine,*
Deputy Secretary to Government.

No. 9986.

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Board.

THIS is authenticated by a name, but it may be a false one. Translation and the original should be sent to the Political Agent in Katteewar for any remarks he may wish to offer, if it be a *bonâ fide* statement of a respectable person.

21 November. (signed) *Falkland.*
W. Cotton.
L. R. Reid.
J. P. Willoughby.

No. 9987.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby*, concurred in by the Honourable Board.

THE Political Agent's attention should be drawn to the statement that Bugwanlall, the lately dismissed native agent, is employed at Joonaghur; for if this be true, it ought not to be allowed. As a general rule I should say, all persons dismissed from Government employ for bribery and corruption, not being a native of the province, should not be permitted to remain in Katteewar.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby.*
24 November. *Falkland.*
W. Cotton.
L. R. Reid.

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hers.

No. 9988.

No. 5050 of 1848.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you the accompanying original petition, dated the 6th ultimo, together with a translation thereof, purporting to be from Kusalsung Unarsung, preferring charges of bribery and corruption against the native members of your office establishment, and to request you to submit to Government any remarks you may wish to offer thereon, if it be the *bonâ fide* statement of a respectable person.

2. I am at the same time desired to draw your attention to the assertion made in this petition, that Bhugwanlall, late native agent of the Rajkote Agency, who was dismissed the service of Government, is employed at Joonaghur, and to observe that if such be the case it ought not to be allowed. As a general rule his Lordship in Council is of opinion that all persons dismissed from the service of Government for bribery and corruption, not being natives of the province, should not be permitted to remain in Katteewar.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle,
30 November 1848.

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary.

No. 710.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 31 January 1849.

Government, No. 9 of 1849.—General, No. 41.

Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Kattywar to *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 30th November last, and the petition sent with it, in the name of Kusulsing Amursing, of Surrupdur, I have the honour to inform you that the communication in question is anonymous, and appears to have been written by some one anxious to see all the persons employed in this Agency belonging to Joonaghur dismissed from the service of Government, in the hope, probably, of their places being filled up by people from Guzerat and other parts of the country. I need hardly state, however, that the employment of men of different castes, and belonging to different parts of the country, is one of the greatest safeguards we can possibly have against the evils of which the petitioner complains.

In reply to the 2d paragraph of your letter, I beg to inform you that the late native agent, Bhugwanlaul, is a native of Joonaghur, and a man held in considerable estimation amongst the people of his caste there, and by many others in this province. Notwithstanding the fault he committed in our service, his Highness the Nawab, I believe, frequently consults him, and has latterly, I understand, given him some employment; and so badly off is this young chief for respectable attendants, associating as he does chiefly with his sebundy jumaders, and people of that class, that I feel assured he has scarcely any one whom he is in the habit of consulting, who would give him better advice than Bhugwanlall. As far as my duty to the young Nawab, therefore, was concerned, I did not consider that I ought to interfore to prevent his availing himself of Bhugwanlall's services, if he found them useful.

3. With regard to the man himself, it should, I think, be borne in mind that the offence of which he was convicted was merely a breach of the orders of Government against receiving presents from the chiefs or others, on occasions of marriages or other family ceremonies; and between the punishment of which and that of actual bribery and corruption a wide line should surely be drawn. Bhugwanlall was dismissed from the service of Government, and declared incapable of employment under it; again to enhance this punishment in his case by

by shutting the door to his being entertained by any of the chiefs in Kattywar, would, in my humble judgment, be treating him with much greater severity than the offence proved against him deserves; and I feel assured that it would tend to enlist very general sympathy in his favour in this province; whereas, at present, I have no reason to believe that any one considers he has been too severely punished.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

4. I deem it my duty to offer these remarks for the consideration of Government, before carrying out the instructions alluded to regarding Bhugwan Laul, and I am sure the motive which dictates them will form a sufficient excuse for them, even if deemed erroneous. There is a case now under investigation, in which I fear the late native agent may be convicted of having received a bribe; in which case, although now opposed to it, I should strongly advocate his being interdicted from employment by any of the chiefs in this province, in addition to the punishment formerly awarded to him.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Wm. Lang*, Political Agent.

Kattywar Political Agency, Camp Chotul,
15 January 1849.

Persian Department.

Substance of a Petition from *Kusulsung Unarsung*, inhabitant of Manji Surpudwi, Prant Kattywar, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council; dated 6th and received 21st October 1848.

Regarding Government to be just and equitable, several poor persons represented their circumstances to it as well as the authorities in Kattywar, and the proceedings of Bhugwanlal, Goolabroy, Arnundjee, Umrutlal, Munishunkur, and other Junagur Nagurs, were distinctly proved to be oppressive. Other cases were then stayed, and the case of corruption at Rajcote having been proved, Bhugwanlall was only dismissed the service. Although the charge of bribery has been proved against Goolabroy and others, the case has been stayed, and they continue to hold their offices. They therefore subject the poor people to various hardships, and exact bribes from them. They ill-treat the people who preferred charges of corruption against them, and do not allow the poor to obtain redress. This is surprising, and I therefore beg to submit the following particulars:

1. As Goolabroy conducts business before the Political Agent, he misrepresents matters to him, and ill-treats the parties who preferred the charges of corruption. The people, therefore, much repent having made the complaints. They were at first backward in preferring their complaints; but when they were satisfied of meeting with attention from Government, they submitted their complaints. Bhugwanlall alone has been dismissed on account of the Rajcote case. No other case is, however, inquired into; all the other cases are lying over. If Government will not listen to the charges of corruption against these persons, the poor people will have no remedy left to them. No inquiry is instituted into the hardships to which the poor are unjustly subjected. The reason of this is as follows. whenever any person attempts to submit a case to the Political Agent, Goolabroy misrepresents matters to the latter, or suppresses some documents, or delays the disposal of the case. He is thus enabled to fabricate his explanation. In consequence of this no one ventures to come forward.

2. Munishunkur, who is the sheristadar of Lieutenant Black, the Assistant Political Agent, is a nephew of Bhugwanlall; Lieutenant Black places full confidence in him, and gives such orders as he dictates. Vuruzlall, who is a brother of Bhugwanlall, receives an allowance as goomasta to the Mujmoodar of Jhallawar; but he does not perform the duties of that office, but those of the Foujdaree department. In this manner the duties of the different offices are managed; as they are all related to each other, they are combined together, and ruin any person who ventures to oppose them. In consequence of this, no one will come forward to make a full representation to the Political Agent. There are cases lying over for a long time, but they are not fully inquired into. If any more charges were to be preferred, they would only create further ill-will. The people are therefore obliged to keep quiet. Lieutenant Barr, the First Assistant Political Agent, also places full confidence in Goolabroy, Munishunkur and others. As they served under him for a long time, they have become well acquainted with his temper, and manage to get their business done by him. If a person prefers a charge of corruption against them, and if it is referred to Lieutenant Barr, he, instead of fully and fairly inquiring into it, holds out threats to the complainant, in order that no other person may complain against them; what can the poor people do then.

3. Anundjee Umurchund, the chief karbharee at Joonaghur, conducted the business at Rajcote; he had also the management of many other talookas. He, however, did not reside at

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

the places of which he had the management, but had it conducted through his men. He resided at Joonaghur; meanwhile, as it was proved in the Rajcote case that he had acted as a broker in getting bribes for the above-mentioned Government karbharees, orders were given prohibiting him from conducting his business at Rajcote, and from managing the other talookas; he was, however permitted to have the management of the affairs at Joonaghur. This is surprising. Anundjee having been proved guilty of irregular acts, proclamations were issued against his employment by any talookdars. Mr. Malet wrote to Government and had the proclamations cancelled, in the hope that Anundjee would reform his conduct in future; this, however, has not been the case, Anundjee having been proved, a second time, guilty of the above public offence, has been prohibited from interfering with any other tolookas but the Joonaghur. This is to be greatly regretted; a Government offender should not be employed in any place, nor should he be permitted to conduct any Government business. No attention is, however, paid to this point; as he is one of the above-mentioned party of Government karbharees, he acts on behalf of the talookdars and others in the cases against the karbharees, and ill-treats many poor persons. He still continues to procure bribes for the karbharees as before. His men, Sudashunkur, Vunarsee, Hurreepursad, and other Nagurs, continue to conduct business at Rajcote as before. The Baee of Rajcote constantly consults him, and does nothing without his advice. I have got evidence to prove this, and I am ready to submit it if an inquiry be instituted into the matter. Government has issued orders not to allow Anundjee to have any connexion with the Durbar at Rajcote, but they are not attended to, and his men are, as stated above, permitted to conduct the business. Although there is an order from Government directing another person to be employed in his place, as karbharee at Rajcote, no person has as yet been nominated to succeed him. I do not know why Government does not inquire into this matter. Anundjee conducts the business at Kotra through one Gunga Mehta, brother-in-law of Goolabroy, in the same way as he manages that at Rajcote. In like manner he carries on the business at Palitana, and other places, through his agents, but no inquiry is instituted into the matter.

4. Although there is a charge against the Jupteedar Roodurjee, on account of an opium case, still he is permitted to continue in his situation. When he came to Rajcote, he obtained leave of absence for 20 days, from Lieutenant Barr, and went to Joonaghur; about seven months have since elapsed, but he has not yet returned to his office, but continues to draw his full salary. He now manages the business of the treasury of the Joonaghur Nawab in conjunction with the criminal Bhugwanlall, who has been dismissed the service. The Political Agent is well aware of this. In order to settle the boundary dispute of the village of Jhalunsur, talooka Gondul, Munishunkur, nephew of Bhugwanlall was sent on the part of Government; Anundjee and Bhugwanlall appeared on behalf of the Nawab, and Dulubjee came on behalf of the Gondul Durbar. After the dispute had been settled all the parties signed the award, and submitted it to Government with a plan. The Gondul Durbar suffered a great loss by this, as all the parties deceitfully combined together and made the settlement; no inquiry is, however, made into it. There was a person, by name Wilkinson, in the English department; as he resigned the Government service, and entered into that of the thakore of Bhownuggur, the Political Agent made a reference to Government, and on the receipt of its instructions issued a takeed to the thakoor of Bhownuggur not to keep him in his employ. Persons who had formerly been dismissed the Government service on suspicion, and who were afterwards employed by some talookdars and merchants, were caused to be dismissed by the Political Agent as soon as he came to know of their employment. In this manner the Political Agent possesses authority to dismiss Government offenders, or persons of irregular conduct, from the talookdar's service. He, however, does not attend to cases which require his particular attention, but attends to those which do not require it.

5. The following are the particulars of the charges of corruption against Goolabroy and others, which have remained uninquired into for a long time:

1. Meherojee, the thakore of Gaioredur, gave a bribe of 500 rupees.

2. Kusulsing, a bhayat of Vula, gave a bribe of 2,000 rupees.

3. The geerasias of Mothuk, a village of Talooka Bhagdura, gave a bribe of 500 rupees.

4. Shet Jubur, the late karbharee of Joonaghur, gave a bribe of 9,000 rupees, consisting of jewels (gold), ornaments, pootlees, &c.

5. A bribe was received from Vajsoor, a pupil of Jusdhuna Khanchur.

6. A bribe was received from Chooranee Baee Jetheba.

7. A bribe was received from Chooranee Baee Bajuraj.

8. A share of the profits (arising from the sale of the opium, which the opium farmer of Joonagur was got to smuggle) was received as a bribe.

The above cases remain to be inquired into, and I have some more to bring to notice; but still the above-mentioned persons are continued in their situations. As the cases against them are not yet inquired into, and as they are not removed from their situations, the people are much afraid. I have also, therefore, refrained from bringing the other cases to notice; I am ready to make them known if Government wish me to do so. If the above-mentioned cases be disposed of soon I shall bring the others to the notice of Government.

6. When

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

6. When Anundjee Amurchund was entrusted with the management of the Joonaghur state through Government, he passed a writing to the effect that Government should be "bahandar" for his management for three years; that during that period he shall be responsible for any loss which might be occasioned to the Nawab's state, or to the British Government, or for any case of corruption; and that if he should fail to give satisfactory explanation he would submit to any punishment which Government might inflict on him; nevertheless he acted dishonestly in many instances during the above period, and several cases are known to Government. I have got some more cases to bring to notice.

7. I beg to enclose herein the original letter in Bhugwanlall's handwriting, to the address of Amrutlall, brother of Anundjee, which I found on the road. This letter appears to have been written with a view to have matters misrepresented to the Political Agent, and to get the business done by deceit. It will appear from this letter that these people have combined together, and fabricated various things. Having entered the service of the Nawab, and having received thousands of rupees as bribes, Bhugwanlall has made several statements against him. It is stated in the letter that Lieutenant Black should go to inquire into the robbery case, and that he should take Mani, that is, Munishunkur, with him; many other things are stated in it; and, on a consideration thereof, your Lordship in Council will perceive that these people combine together in every case, and practise frauds; when they have their kind sahebs to inquire into cases, or when their relations are the sherastadars, they can practise any fraud they like; when a case is fair it is immaterial who inquires into it.

8. The robbers who murdered Mr. Lock, of the cavalry, are not the persons (who have been seized). If Government will institute a full inquiry the facts will be known. Some mekranees were seized and imprisoned at Porebundur. One of them, who died, had been seized on the fabrications of Anuntjee, who wishes to show off his services to the Political Agent, and to have the interdict against allowing him a chair to sit removed. Several murders have been committed in this country, and, as the Nagurs are concerned therein, no inquiry is made regarding them. As long as an inquiry is not made, and the offenders are not punished, there will be no peace and order in the country. The Jam Saheb lately committed a murder or two in Tulnuggur, but no notice has been taken of the matter; whenever the Political Agent goes, corruption is resorted to, and murders are committed. I therefore pray that the dishonest acts of above-mentioned nugurs may be inquired into, and that they may be dismissed; unless this is done the poor cannot be happy. If Government will not inquire into the above charges of corruption against Goolabroy and others, I have no remedy left to me. The charges have not been preferred by one person alone. If Government will not listen to the complaints, I beg that the complained may be removed to some other zillah; if they remain here they will bear enmity towards the poor, and injure them. Anundjee's men still continue to manage the affairs of the talookas, with which he has been prohibited from interfering, I therefore pray that they may be removed from those talookas. These people manage the affairs of the talookdars, perform the business of the Political Agent's office, and are also entrusted with attachments in the talookas. Why can they not join together and commit frauds? One Ghela Anundraun, who is a vakeel in the Durbar at Rajcote, has got a firm in his name in the bazar, and Anundjee and Goolabroy have shares in it. This firm had to receive a debt from Premchund Bhimjee; as he failed he did not pay the debts he owed to several persons. He had to receive debts from some persons, and mohsuls were therefore issued against them from the Rajcote Durbar, and the money which was thus recovered was received in payment of Anundjee's private claim, and the debt due to the above firm. When these proceedings came to the knowledge of the Political Agent, the Nuggurs, with a view to preventing the matter from being investigated, had a letter presented in the name of the Nawab of Joonagur, to the effect that bills had been given in Bombay in payment of the tribute payable by Joonaghur, but that as they had been dishonoured and returned, he, the Nawab, claimed the amount from Premchund Bhimjee. If the matter be carefully inquired into the frauds will be known.

P. S.—Anundjee receives direct the orders which are issued to the Nawab of Joonagur, and replies to them according to his own wishes. In consequence of this the Nawab's state is subjected to loss. Although there are charges of corruption against Goolabroy, he continues to receive inams and nuzranas through his cousin. It is surprising that no inquiry is instituted into the matter.

(signed) *C. J. Erskine,*
Deputy Secretary to Government.

(True copy.)

(signed) A. Malet, Chief Secretary.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 711.

Minute by the Honourable Board.

The petition should therefore be filed; Major Lang should be requested to keep in abeyance the late order relative to Bhugwanlall, pending the inquiry into the case of bribery now reported.

(signed) *Falkland.*
W. Cotton.
L. R. Reid.
J. P. Willoughby.

24 January 1849.

No. 712.

No. 373 of 1849.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 15th instant, No. 9, and to inform you that, under the report therein submitted, the anonymous petition bearing the signature of Kusulsing Umursing, therewith returned, has been directed to be filed.

2. With reference to the employment of Bugwanlall, the late native agent of the Rajcote Agency, by the Nawab of Joonaghur, I am instructed to request that you will keep in abeyance the late order of Government, relative to this individual, pending the inquiry into the case of bribery adverted to in the last paragraph of your letter.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle,
25 January 1849.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 14 November 1849.

Extract, Para. 5, from a Letter from the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 29 August, No. 240 of 1849.

5. We regret that the Nuwab of Joonaghur should be so deficient in respectable officers, that Major Lang did not think it expedient to prevent him from giving employment to Bugwunlal, a former servant on the Agency establishment, dismissed for receiving presents from chiefs and others on occasions of his family marriages and other ceremonies. We shall not interfere with the exercise of your discretion in the case as it at present stands; but if the suspicion against Bugwunlal of being implicated in a case of actual bribery should be confirmed, you, of course, will not permit his employment by any chief in the province.

No. 9327.

No. 4759 of 1849.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you an extract (para. 5) from a despatch from the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated the 29th August last, No. 24, and to inform you that Government

Government awaits your report on the alleged case of bribery therein alluded to, a further report on which was promised in the 4th paragraph of your letter, dated the 15th Jauary last, No. 9. Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle, 6 November 1849. (signed) *A. Malet*, Chief Secretary.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 20 February 1850. No. 1059.

No. 634 of 1850.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to draw your attention to my letter, dated the 6th November last, No. 4759, calling for your promised report on the case of bribery in which Bhugwanlall, formerly native agent of the Rajcote Agency, was alleged to have been implicated.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle, 7 February 1850. (signed) *A. Malet*, Chief Secretary.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 31 July 1850.

Consultation, No. 86 of 1850.—General, No. 218. No. 5859.

Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 7th February last, No. 634, I have the honour to inform you, that a visit to Choora will be necessary to enable me properly to investigate the case of asserted bribery therein alluded to; and I fully intended to have gone there when lately in Jhallawar for that purpose, but was prevented by having in the mean time to proceed to Scinde. I must therefore request permission to defer making the report now called for till I can visit Jhallawar next cold season, unless the promised attendance of the young chief's mother at Rajcote at an early date, to endeavour to persuade her mother-in-law to return with her to Choora, should give me an opportunity of finishing the inquiry sooner, which, if possible, I shall of course endeavour to do.

I have, &c.

Katteewar Political Agency, Rajcote, 1 July 1850. (signed) *W. Lang*, Political Agent.

(True extract.)

(signed) H. E. Goldsmid, Secretary to Government.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 16 May 1851.

Consultation, No. 55 of 1851.—General, No. 132. No. 3559.

Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *H. E. Goldsmid*, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Sir,

1. I have the honour to inform you that I lately visited Choora, agreeably to the intention expressed in my letter of the 1st July last, No. 86, in order to complete the investigation of the case therein alluded to. As this has been chiefly conducted by my assistant, Mr. Black, I beg to forward a copy of his

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

report on the subject; from which you will observe, that owing to the thakoor's mother persisting in withholding the Durbar books, which doubtless contain entries which, with the other evidence, would probably suffice for the conviction of the parties concerned, the result of this investigation is altogether unsatisfactory, except in so far as it proves that the whole of the wealth of the Choora Durbar has been squandered away since the late thacoor's death, and much of it clearly by the present young chief's mother.

2. I have repeatedly warned the Baee of the injury she was doing to her son's interests by her continued endeavours to thwart Government in ascertaining what has become of the Durbar property, and I distinctly informed her on the last occasion of her persisting in doing so, that she might rest assured that such conduct would prevent her ever being again entrusted with the management of the affairs of the talooka during her son's minority. I certainly had hoped, from all I heard, that the books would have been given up on my visiting Choora; but as it is now clear that the Baee is quite determined to persevere in the course she has adopted, she has only herself to blame for the result, whatever it may be.

3. As regards the large sum of money which has been made away with on this occasion, I have no doubt that a considerable portion of it was appropriated by the parties who assert that they paid it to others, and by those associated with them on the part of the Durbar; and with regard to the rest, as the evidence, in the absence of the account books, is certainly insufficient to convict any one, it would not be fair to offer an opinion. One of the principal persons concerned in misappropriating this money is a near bhyand of the Durbar; and, as an example to others who may be similarly situated hereafter, it would, I think, be advisable to visit him with some punishment, either by recovering a portion of the amount from his own Giras village, or by prohibiting his being received by any of the officers of this agency, as may be considered best.

4. The younger Baee must, of course, be allowed to retain charge of her children; but I would recommend that the most respectable teacher that can be procured for them in Bombay, for a salary of 50 rupees a month, should be sent up to superintend their education, and see that they are in other respects properly brought up. He ought, I think, to be a native of Guzerat, and one who has received the best vernacular education. With regard to the management of the talooka, I would not allow the younger Baee the slightest degree of interference; and as the restoration of authority to the elder Baee would lead to renewed and incessant bickerings, and the female regencies which have heretofore been so much the rule in Jhallawar are of themselves a serious evil, I would recommend a farm of the talooka to the most trustworthy person I can get to take it at a proper rental, and under supervision of a steady attachment mehta, as an additional protection to the ryots, as the best system of management that can now, under all the circumstances of the case, be adopted.

I have, &c.

Katteewar Political Agency,
Camp, Koora, 19 April 1851.

(signed) *W. Lang*,
Political Agent.

Forwarded to Mr. *H. E. Goldsmid*, with Letter No. 132, Consultation, No. 55, dated 19 April 1851.

From Lieutenant *J. Black*, Third Assistant Political Agent in Katteewar, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit for your information, a summary of the evidence taken in investigating charges of bribery and corruption against Bhugwanlal Muddonjee, formerly native agent, who is accused of having received the sum of 30,000 Company's rupees, or thereabouts, at different times, from the agents of Baee Jeteeba, the widow of Thakoor Raeesingjee, for his good services after the death of Raeesingjee, when a dispute was going on between her and Baee Rajeeba, the mother of the late Thacoor Raeesingjee, as to whether the management of the talooka should be carried on by the young baee, Jeteeba, or by the old baee, Rajeeba, during the minority of the Koour.

On

On the 23d and 28th August 1847, a petition was received from Baee Bajeeba, complaining that she had been excluded from the management of the talooka by Baee Jeteeba, through the evil counsel of certain persons, who had done so that they might embezzle the wealth of the Durbar; although the Political Agent had recommended Baee Jateeba to conduct the management with her advice, as she had had experience in such matters, she had been excluded, which she could not understand; and that 83,000 rupees in cash, 40,000 rupees' worth of jewellery, and the revenues of the talooka, had been made away with. Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

Immediately on receipt of these petitions, orders were sent to Baee Jeteeba to send in the Durbar accounts of the waeewat, from the time of the death of Raeesingjee to the present time; but great delay took place in sending in the books, and those sent do not appear to be the genuine books for various reasons, among which I may mention a few. From St. 1900 to 1903.

1stly. Up to the year St. 1900, the number of books, and manner in which they were kept, differ from those of the year St. 1900, and subsequent years. 2dly. On examining the books of Bhaeechund Panachund, a sowcar of Choora, certain pages of the Durbar chopra are quoted, which do not correspond with the books now shown. 3dly. An account is found in Bhaeechund Panachund's chopra, opened in 1900, with the fictitious name of Ruttonsee Bhaeechund, which the sowcar states was the name by which the Durbar agents borrowed money, and had transactions to the amount of 22,383 rupees; and although a sum of 200 rupees was received to account from the Durbar, no entry of such payment is found in the Durbar books.

It was very desirable to get these books if possible, and for the purpose of causing them to be sent in, an attachment was imposed, and the investigations were discontinued until such time as a visit could be paid to Choora by an officer of the Political Agency, when there was a hope the Baee might have been induced to give up the books, or give an explanation of the expenditure of the money alleged to have been squandered; but neither means had the desired effect.

The first charge against Bhugwanlal Muddunjee, is of having received, when with Mr. Malet's camp at Joonaghur in St. 1900, (A. D. 1843-44), the sum of 2,500 rupees; and the evidence in this case is that of a Bramin, named Atmaram Jewaram, presently residing in the Jusdhun talooka, and formerly in the confidential employ of Baee Jeteeba as karbaree, who states that about the year St. 1900 (A.D. 1843-44), when the Thakoor Raeesingjee died, a dispute arose between the two Baees, Bajeeba and Jeteeba, about the management; and on Bajeeba's petitioning the Political Agent, Baee Jeteeba sent Jhola Munooba, of the Bhyand village of Meenapoor, to Mr. Malet's camp at Joonaghur, to answer the petition; that Jhala Munooba took with him money; that he afterwards followed him to Joonaghur, and that there Munooba, having beforehand made some understanding with Anutjee Kutchee, the wukeel of Palitana, and various petty grassias, they all three went to Bhugwanlal's house, when Munooba and Anutjee Kutchee took the money, viz., 2,500 rupees, into the house, and gave it to Bhugwanlal, while he remained outside. In the deposition of this witness, given on the 21st September 1847, he states that he carried, along with two or three horsemen, 1,000 rupees in saddle-bags to Joonaghur from Choora, the balance of 1,500 having been previously taken there by Munooba; but afterwards, on the — March 1851, at Choora, he stated that he had taken an order for 2,000 rupees on a sowcar at Gondul, who gave him another for the same amount on Lowa Vela, of Joonaghur, and that Munooba added 500 rupees to this; thus making the amount in all 2,500 rupees. On examining the Durbar books, no entries could be found of this money; but when at Choora lately, Atmaram stated that there was an account which ought to be looked at in Bhaeechund Panachund's books for St. 1900; and one of the partners, Kaloo Kupoor, was accordingly called, and, on being examined, stated that a false account in the name of Ruttunsee had been opened by the Durbar, which he showed; and there an entry was found of 2,000 rupees at the debit of Ruttunsee, by letter of credit on Gondul (no name mentioned), dated Mahawud 30th, St. 1900 (18th February 1844). Baee Jeteeba denies all knowledge of the accounts opened in the name of Ruttunsee Bhaeechund, and of this sum, or any other sum of rupees being given to any of the Political Agent's establishment, and begs that Atmaram and Manickchund, who were her karbarees, may be called on for an account of their management. Jootoo Gandee, the Durbar dufturee, or book-keeper, by whom it appears the accounts were kept, also states that he knows nothing of the matter, and that he wrote whatever Atmaram ordered him, and therefore cannot be held responsible.

In the disposal of this money at Joonaghur, by Atmaram's statement, there were only two others besides himself; viz., Munooba of Munapoor and Anutjee Kutchee, both of whom deny all knowledge of the transaction.

From the discrepancy in the evidence of Atmaram, the only witness as to the manner in which the money was conveyed to Joonaghur, and also the concealment by him of the Durbar account in the name of Ruttunsee, of which he must have been aware, as well as from the want of evidence as to the disposal of the 2,500 rupees at Joonaghur, it will probably be considered that there is not sufficient evidence to convict any of the persons accused by Atmaram in this instance.

The second charge is also against Bhugwanlal for having received the sum of 5,000 rupees at Sathee, during the months of Phalgoon or Chuetur of the year St. 1900. Atmaram states this sum of money was brought from Choora on a camel, driven by Malo Rubaree; that the money was taken out of the Durbar treasure; and that he, Jooto Gandee, dufturee of the Choora Durbar; Manickchund Parick, karbaree of Choora; Gael Bhaeejeebhaee, of the village Feb. and March 1844.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

village of Trewree, and Munooba Jalee, of Minapoor, went to Bhugwanlal's tent, and having called Anutjee Kutchee from the tent, Munooba told him to take the money. Anutjee Kutchee then called Brijlal Muddonjee, the brother of Bhugwunlal, who took the money inside. An order to give the management to Jeteeba, to the exclusion of Bajeeba, having been received by Joota Gandee, the latter went back to Choora. Manickchund states a sum of money, about 5,000 rupees, was brought, and that it was given to Anutjee Kutchee at the tank at Lathee, and that it was for Bhugwanlal, but does not mention Brijlal's name, and thus there is a discrepancy in the evidence. Malo Kheto, the rubaree, deposes to having come from Choora with Atmaram, Joota Gandee and Waljee Bargheer, carrying on his camel a large bundle; and that Atmaram, Joota Gandee, and Waljee always loaded and unloaded the camel, and does not know what the bundle contained. Dewo Rujpoot states that he was with Munooba, Manickchund, and Bhaeejee at Lathee, with the Political Agent's camp, and that Atmaram, Jooto Gandee, Waljee Bareeghur, came from Choora, bringing 5,000 rupees and five bags, and that it was put into the cart which he had charge of, belonging to the Durbar; from thence, they, Jooto Gandee, Mala Waljee, and Atmaram and I, carried each a bag, and we went to Bhugwanlal's tent, accompanied by Munooba Bhaeejee and Manickchund; and that Bhugwunlal's brother, name unknown, and Anutjee Kutchee, received the money in a sack. Anutjee Kutchee and Munooba deny all knowledge of the transaction; and Keteeba, the Baee of Choora, having no accounts to produce, denies having given this money, as is stated to have been given, from the Durbar treasure. There are no books to prove the transaction. Jeteeba further asserts, that on the death of the late thakoor, as Bajeeba remained sometime in the management, she left no money in the Durbar, and that consequently she could not have paid that money. Of this charge there appears to be some probability of truth; although the very open way in which the money was procured, and then brought and paid, is surely remarkable.

About 1844.

The third charge is also against Bhugwanlal, who is stated by Atmaram to have received in gold, at Rajcote, after the Political Agent arrived there from Bhownuggur, the value of 5,000 rupees. In this case Atmaram stated that he took five pieces of gold, accompanied by Munooba and Manickchund, to the house of Anutjee Kutchee, who took the gold; and that they all went to the chora near Bhugwanlal's house, where an interview took place with Kahandass Oodeychund, the brother-in-law of Bhugwanlal, who received the money from Anutjee Kutchee, for the purpose of giving it to Bhugwanlal. This account of the manner in which the gold was given differs in some respects from that given by Manickchund, who states that, after going into Anutjee Kutchee's house, and giving the 4½ or 5½ pieces of gold, they arose and went away; and does not mention the name of Kahandass Oodeychund at all. Munooba, who is said to have accompanied them, and Anutjee Kutchee, who is said to have received the money from them, both deny all knowledge of the giving or receiving of the gold in question. On the books of the Durbar being inspected, it was found that a sum of *Rs.* 5,681. 3. had been expended in purchasing gold from Shet Day, a Peetamber; and in this same book was an account of this same gold, showing how it had been disposed of, by making it into ornaments for the daughter of the late Thacoor, on the occasion of her marriage to the Thacoor of Mornee, when *Rs.* 7,000. 12. are accounted for in the goldsmith's accounts. However, it appears on inspection of the books of Baeechund Panachund of Choora, that in

St. 1901 Shrawun (about).

On and after Shrawan Shood 2, 1901 (about.)

15 April 1844.

19 May 1844.

St. 1900, Chytru Shood 13th, he paid to Rattunsee - -	*Rs.* 2,011	12	0
And again on Jetsood 2d - - - - - - -	5,164	10	0
	Rs. 7,176	6	0

This Ruttunsee being the name under which the Durbar accounts were kept for such sums as were used for improper purposes by Atmaram, Manikchund, and Joots Gandee. In the account of Ruttonsee appears a hoondee for 5,000 rupees, dated Wyshak Shood 7 and 8, payable by Durumshee Kanjee, of Rajcote, to the bearer. This hoondee is credited again as returned to the account of Ruttunsee, on Wyshak Wud 30th; and this transaction, not before mentioned by Atmaram or Manickchund, is now accounted for by Atmaram, who states that he presented it to Bhugwunlal, who refused, saying gold was required; that this took place at Bhaonugger, and the gold was paid at Rajcote; and from the books it appears that the gold was paid to the Durbar three days after the hoondee was returned. On questioning Atmaram about the balance of 7,000 rupees, he stated that this sum was paid by Munooba and Anutjee Kutchee to some of our Government servants at Palitana, when Mr. Malet's camp was there, and that it was paid in gold. As Atmaram was not present when it was given, and as he never before mentioned this sum, and as Anutjee Kutchee denies all knowledge of it, it is to be presumed that this is a sum which Atmaram did not think would come to light. There appears no doubt that the sum of 7,000 rupees was received by Atmaram and Manikchund; but whether they disposed of it as shown by them, or have embezzled it, I am humbly of opinion has not been proved.

25 and 26 April 1844.

17 May 1844.

July 1844.

The fourth charge is also an accusation against Bhugwanlal, of having received 10,000 korees. Atmaram states that, about three months after the gold to 5,000 rupees was given at Rajcote, he and Munooba brought in a cart from Choora the sum of 3,000 Company's rupees, and exchanged them into korees at Rajcote, but does not recollect the shop at which they were exchanged; and that he, Munooba, and Manikchund, went, taking with them the korees, to Anutjee Kutchee's house, and that they gave the korees to Anutjee, who, along with Brijlal, took the korees to Bhugwanlal's house. Manickchund deposes to having gone with Munooba and Atmaram to the house of Brijlal, and there gave 1,000 korees to Anutjee Kutchee,

Kutchee, but does not know where the korees were procured. There is, therefore a disparity in the statements of the two principal witnesses here, as to the place where this money was paid; and Munooba denies being present, or knowing anything about the matter; and Anutjee Kutchee denies having received any korees at any time from any of the abovementioned persons. Atmaram states that the Durbar books will show from whom this money was received; but on examination of the Durbar books, no entries of this amount could be found, as the real books of the Durbar were not shown. It appears, in my humble opinion, that however suspicious this case may be, there is not sufficient proof to convict Anutjee Kutchee, Brijlal Muddunjee, or Bhugwanlal Muddunjee.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

The fifth charge is against Bhugwanlal, for having received the sum of 3,000 rupees. In this case Atmaram, the only wituess, stated that when he and Tacursee Dyasha, who was at Rajcote on Baee Jeteeba's account, were there, Tacursee wrote to the Baee to send him money, and that accordingly 3,000 rupees was borrowed by Dyasha Peetamber, and sent in by horsemen to Rajcote, from the shop of Joojoo of Soeela, but that he does not know the names of the horsemen. On inquiry, an entry is found in Joojoo's books, or an account without date, from 1900 to 1903, of 3045 paid to Jeewoa Mehta, one of the Durbar servants. On again questioning Atmaram, at Choora in March last, he stated that he had no proof, and that he had merely stated what he had heard, and did not know anything about it.

A. D. 1843–44.
1844–45.
1845–46.
1846–47.

The sixth charge is also against Bhugwanlal, of having received the sum of 7,000 rupees, being part of 11,000 rupees expended by Dyasha Peetamber in the Political Agent, Major Lang's, camp, in effecting the removal of the attachment, from December 1846 to February 1847. Atmaram states this on hearsay. Dyasha denies having paid the money, and produces his books, from which it would appear that he gave gold to the Durbar in two instalments, on the 9th Shrawun Wud, 1902, amounting to *Rs.* 7,777. 12 ½, which appears to be the gold which was used for the marriage of the young Baee to the Thacor of Morvee, as stated by the Durbar, and not on account of the attachment being removed, which did not take place until 1847.

26 August 1845.

With reference to the complaint made by Baee Bajeeba, in general terms, about the treasure of the Durbar being squandered, I beg, in conclusion, to observe that, owing to the concealment of the Durbar books and the absence of evidence, I have been unable to trace any of the money; but I may here mention that Baee Jeteeba, on the other hand, accuses Bajeeba of having made away with the treasure, &c., on the thacor's death, while she was in the Durbar, where she remained some time after his death.

I have, &c.

Gogo, 7 April 1851.

(signed) *J. Black,*
Third Assistant Political Agent.

(True copy.)

(signed) W. Lang, Political Agent.

No. 3560.

Minute by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Messrs. *Blane* and *Bell.*

1. It is very much to be regretted that the non-production of the Durbar books by the younger Bhae has prevented the possibility of obtaining any satisfactory results from the inquiry relative to the expenditure of the money belonging to the Choora treasury.

2. I fully concur with Major Lang, that the younger Bhae should be deprived of the management of the estate, which should be placed under strict attachment until a farm can be arranged with our attachment mehta, stationed to attend to the interest of the ryots.

3. I think that, if it can be clearly proved that any of this money were made away with through the agency of one of the Durbar Byad, he should be made to refund as much as possible; but if this cannot be done, I should think the interdict against his reception by any of the officers of the agency will mark the displeasure of Government sufficiently.

4. Extract first part of para. 4 may be sent to the Board of Education for their report.

(signed) *Falkland.*
D. A. Blane.
A. Bell.

1 May 1851.

Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

No. 3561.

No. 1994 of 1851.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to Major *William Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 55, dated the 19th ultimo, forwarding copy of one from Lieutenant Black, reporting the result of his inquiry into the Choora bribery case.

2. In reply, I am desired to state that it is much to be regretted that the non-production of the Durbar books by the younger Baee, has prevented the possibility of obtaining any satifactory results from the inquiry relative to the expenditure of the money belonging to the Choora treasury.

3. The Right honourable the Governor in Council fully concurs with you, that the younger Baee should be deprived of the management of the estate; and directs that it be placed under strict attachment, until a farm can be arranged under the supervision of an attachment mehta, for the interest of the ryots.

4. Adverting to the third para. of your letter, I am instructed to state that his Lordship in Council is of opinion, that if it can be clearly proved that any of the money were made away with through the agency of one of the Durbar Byad, he should be made to refund as much as possible; but that if this cannot be done, an interdict against his reception by any of the officers of the agency will mark the displeasure of Government.

5. The Board of Education has been addressed on the subject of obtaining a teacher for superintending the education of the young thakoor of Choora and his brother.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle,
10 May 1851.

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary.

No. 3562.

No. 1995 of 1851.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to *M. Stovell*, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Education, Bombay.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you an extract from para. 4 from a letter from the Political Agent in Katteewar, No. 55, dated the 19th ultimo, and to request that you will, under the authority of the Board of Education, be pleased to submit a report on that officer's application for a competent teacher to undertake the education of the Thakoor of Choora and his younger brother.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle,
10 May 1851.

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary.

No. 4960.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 2 July 1851.

No. 382 of 1851.—Political Department.

From *M. Stovell*, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Education, Bombay, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government.

Sir,

IN acknowledging the receipt of your letter No. 1995, dated 10th ultimo, and accompaniment, relative to procuring a competent teacher for the thakoor of Choora and his younger brother, I am directed by the Board of Education to inform you, that as no competent teacher would leave Bombay on so small a salary

salary as 50 rupees, reference was made to Mr. Graham, head master, Government English School, at Surat; and I am directed to forward the accompanying copy of a letter from that gentleman, and to recommend the nomination of Dolutram Oottumram as teacher. Charges of Corruption against Bhugwun Lall and others.

I have, &c.

Board of Education, Bombay, 14 June 1851. (signed) *M. Stovell*, Secretary.

No. 11 of 1851.

To *M. Stovell*, Esq., Secretary to the Board of Education, Bombay.

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter dated 23 May 1851, No. 301 of 1851, I have the honour to inform you that I can with confidence recommend our present school clerk, Dolutram Oottumram, as a person very competent to be entrusted with the management of the education, &c. of the thakoor of Choora. He is a respectable Nagur Brahmin, verging on his 23d year, and has received a tolerably extensive education in the English school here. He is, besides a very intelligent young man, of close industrious habits, and, so far as I have seen, remarkably well-conducted.

I have, &c.

(signed) *James Graham*,
Head Master Gov[t] English School.

Surat, 6 June 1851.

(True copy.)

(signed) M. Stovell, Secretary.

Minute by the Honourable Mr. *Blane*, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Bell*. No. 4961.

Copy to be sent to the Political Agent, Katteewar, with reference to para. 4 of his letter, dated 19 April last, for his opinion whether he considers this person suitable for the charge of the young chief of Choora and his younger brother.

(signed) *D. A. Blane.*
A. Bell.

20 June 1851.

No. 2748 of 1851.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar. No. 4962.

Sir,

With reference to the 4th para. of your letter No. 55, dated the 19th April last, I am directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you copy of a letter from the Secretary to the Board of Education, No. 382, dated the 14th instant, with its enclosure, and to request that you will be pleased to submit your opinion, whether you consider the person therein alluded to suited for the charge of the young chief of Choora and his younger brother.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle, 27 June 1851. (signed) *A. Malet*, Chief Secretary.

(True extract.)

(signed) A. Malet, Chief Secretary.

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

Entries in the Wudwun Accounts of the Names of Thirteen Persons on the Kattywar Political Agency Establishment, as having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

EXTRACT Political Letter from Bombay, dated 25th April (No. 27) 1844.

Kattywar.

* Wudwun.

Para. 119. DURING the examination which Mr. Malet made of the accounts of this estate,* he discovered that, in many instances, large sums of money had been entered as having been given to persons in Government employ, and in other instances the names of the parties to whom sums of money had been paid, had been altogether omitted. In bringing this circumstance to the notice of Government, Mr. Malet recommended that these charges should not be admitted in the accounts, but that the Regent Baee should be held answerable for them, with an intimation that she was at liberty to adopt measures for the recovery of the amounts from the persons they are alleged to have been paid.

120. In reply, we have directed Mr. Malet to submit to Government extracts from the accounts referring to the items which have been entered as bribes alleged to have been given to persons in the employment of Government, and to call upon the Regent Baee and the karbaree of Wudwun to furnish all the information in their power, in regard to these transactions, to enable Government to determine what measures should be adopted in each case.

EXTRACT Political Letter from Bombay; dated 20th May (No. 76) 1846.

† Wudwun.

Para. 17. IN the 119th para. of our despatch, dated the 25th April, No. 27 of 1844, we informed your Honourable Court, that during an examination which Mr. Malet made into the accounts of this estate,† in the early part of the year 1843, he had discovered that, in many instances, large sums of money had been entered as having been given by the Wudwun Durbar to persons in Government employ, and other individuals; and that in other instances the names of the parties to whom it was alleged sums of money had been paid, had been altogether omitted. In bringing this circumstance to the notice of Government, Mr. Malet recommended that these charges should not be admitted in the accounts, but that the Regent Baee should be held answerable for them, with an intimation that she was at liberty to adopt measures for the recovery of the amounts from the persons to whom they are alleged to have been paid. In reply, we directed Mr. Malet to submit to Government extracts from these accounts, referring to the items entered as presents alleged to have been given to persons in the employment of Government, and to call upon the Regent Baee and the karbarree of Wudwan to furnish all the information in their power, in regard to these transactions, to enable Government to determine what measures should be adopted in each case.

18. We now beg to forward three reports from Mr. Malet, dated the 16th December 1844, 20th February 1845, and 15th January 1846, containing the above, and all further information he has been enabled to obtain on the above subject. From these reports your Honourable Court will observe, that the various sums entered in these accounts as having been given as presents to natives in the employment of Government, and to other individuals, amounted in the aggregate to *Rs.* 27,991. 8. 6. These presents extended over a period of nine years, commencing with A.D. 1833. The names of 13 persons connected with the establishment of the Political Agent were entered in these accounts as having, with other parties, participated in these presents. At the date, however, of Mr. Malet's reports, five‡ only of these 13 persons, whose names are mentioned in the margin, were still in the employment of Government; and another, Chotum

‡ 1. Roodujee sequestration mehta at Kuntorca. 2. Soobhan Sing, jemadar of police (horse). 3. Munsharam, jemadar of peons employed at Wudwan. 4 and 5. Mahdooraee and Jetojee, occasionally employed as attachment mehtas, &c. 6. Chotum Lall Bappoo Bhaee, Government pensioner.

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

Chotum Lall Bappoo Bhaee, has lately, with the permission of your Honourable Court, been permitted to retire from Government employment, on a pension. The other seven individuals are either dead, or have been discharged from the service of Government.

19. Mr. Malet called upon each of the six individuals above alluded to to explain the circumstances under which they had received from the Wudwan Durbar the sums entered opposite their respective names, Numbers 1, 4, and 6; whose names are entered as having, between them, received the sum of 1,200 rupees and a buffaloe, denied all knowledge of the transactions to which these entries professed to bear reference, or that they had received any presents whatever from the Wudwan Durbar; which, on a reference, corroborated the statements of these parties, and attributed the entry of these amounts to fraud on the part of a mehta attached to the Durbar, named Dya.

20. Soobham Sing, whose name is entered Number 2, in the statement in the margin of the preceding paragraph, declared that a sum of 80 rupees entered as having been given to him as a present, had not been received by him as such, but was the price of a horse purchased by the Chief of Wudwan, for the payment of which he had become security. This explanation also was corroborated by the Wudwan Durbar.

21. The Jemadar Munsharam, Number 3, stated that his son was in the employment of the Wudwan Durbar, and that some of the amounts entered in the name of the father had been received by the son. In regard to three remaining entries, Munsheram stated that one (of 40 rupees) was the price of a sword he had sold to the Chief of Wudwan, that another (of 60 rupees) was the value of an exchange present received by his wife, on the occasion of her paying a visit to the Regent Baee, and that the other (50 rupees) was for food provided by order of the Baee to some Brahmins on the occasion of the Durbar and other ladies coming to his (Munsharam's) house to perform some religious ceremony. The Wudwan Durbar, on being referred to, deposed to the above statement being correct.

22. The other individual, Jetojee, whose name was entered in the Durbar account as having received presents amounting to 165 rupees, stated that 100 rupees of the amount was a loan which he had obtained from the son of the Wudwan minister, and had afterwards repaid; that a charge of 15 rupees which he was to have paid as interest on this loan, and which formed one of the entries in the Durbar accounts, had been remitted on his paying back the principal, and that the remaining item (50 rupees) was a bet he had won from the Durbar, but of which amount he stated he had not received payment. This statement was corroborated on reference to the Wudwan Durbar.

23. In reply we informed Mr. Malet, that we did not consider the above explanations to be altogether satisfactory, but that we were not aware that we could adopt any further measures, except in the case of the Jemadar Munsharam, Number 3. This person, whose son has taken employment in the service of the Wudwan Durbar, is stationed at that place on the part of the British Government, to control in some degree, and to watch the proceedings of that Durbar. We observed to Mr. Malet, that there is no moral wrong in the son being so employed, and in his receiving presents and emoluments as the other servants of the Wudwan estate, while the father is so stationed at that Durbar on the part of the British Government, but that the father cannot, under these circumstances, satisfactorily fulfil the duty with which he is entrusted, since but little confidence can be placed in a person whose interests might, in this state of things, be so readily opposed to his duty. If, therefore, the son should be desirous of remaining in the service of the Wudwan state, we directed that the duty of attending that Durbar on the part of the British Government should be entrusted to some other person than Munsharam (the father); but that, if on the other hand, the father should prefer continuing in his present employment, the son be required to resign his situation under the Wudwan Durbar.

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

Kattywar.

Extract Political Letter to Bombay, dated 30 September (No. 26) 1846.

Para. 7. You have now forwarded to us the result of the inquiry which you had ordered respecting the entries which had been discovered in the Wudwun accounts, of various sums given in presents to persons in the service of Government. The names of 13 persons on the Political Agent's establishment were implicated in the alleged transactions; seven of these were either dead, or had been discharged from employment, five were still in your service, either as attachment mehtas or as police jemadars, and the thirteenth was Chotum Loll, lately permitted to retire on a pension. Being called on for an explanation, some denied the transactions *in toto*; others furnished such versions of them, as, if admitted, would show that there had been no corruption, though there had been pecuniary transactions. The explanations were confirmed by the Durbar, although it had itself furnished others totally different. The denials of those who had disclaimed the transactions altogether were also acquiesced in by the Durbar, which accounted for the entries as originating in fraud on the part of one of its own mehtas.

8. We are aware that money is often obtained from native chiefs on the false pretence of its being required to bribe our servants, native, or even Europeans, and we think it very probable that the entries asserted to be fraudulent, were really so; still we cannot regard the case as satisfactorily cleared up, and we must enjoin that the conduct of such of the persons named in the accounts as are still in our service, be carefully watched. We are surprised, too, that you should have passed over, without comment, the questionable character of the transactions acknowledged by several of those persons.

No. 62.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, dated 21 February 1844.

Extract Letter from the Political Agent in Katteewar, to Secretary Government, Bombay; dated 19th May 1843.

6. The second column of inadmissible sums is made up of items in the last degree objectionable. In many places large sums are entered as given to persons in Government employ; in others names are omitted, but the places and dates can but lead to the same conclusion. I do not consider that the entry of a name in such chopras is any proof whatever of a bribe paid to the person named. The general character of the karbarrees of the chiefs of this country would induce me to suppose that at least a large portion of the sums thus entered had found its way into their hands; still the entry may be true, but the excessive inconvenience of trials on such accounts, not followed by conviction, and the difficulty of judicial proof, which it is the interest of all parties to destroy, is so great that I cannot recommend an inquiry; I therefore wish that the sums thus paid be not admitted on the accounts of the estate, and the Bhaee being made answerable for their expenditure, be informed that she may recover them from the persons to whom they have been paid; this course will, where proof is possible, and she is willing to bring it forward, either obtain restitution of the money or offers to us of the proofs, which against her wish we have no probability of obtaining.

No. 914.

Extract Bombay Political Consultations, dated 21 February 1844.

Extract Minute by the Governor subscribed to by the Board; dated 5 January 1844.

11. With reference to the second column of inadmissible items, Mr. Malet states, that in many instances large sums of money are entered as having been given to persons in Government employ, that in other instances, the names of the parties to whom sums of money have been paid are omitted, but Mr. Malet at the same time observes, that he does not consider that the mere entry of a name

name in such chopras is any proof whatever of a bribe having been paid to the person whose name is inserted in the accounts, and that the general character of the karbarees of the chiefs in Kattewar would induce him to suppose, that at least a large portion of the sums thus entered has found its way into their hands; should however, these entries be true, Mr. Malet observes that the excessive inconvenience of bringing individuals to trial on charges of this nature, where conviction cannot be ensured, and the difficulty of judicial proof, which it is the interest of all parties to destroy, is so great, that he cannot recommend any inquiry being instituted into this point. Mr. Malet therefore proposes that the sums thus entered in the accounts be not admitted; that the Regent Baee be made answerable for their expenditure, with an intimation that she is at liberty to adopt measures for the recovery of the amounts from the persons to whom they are alleged to have been paid. The adoption of this course, Mr. Malet observes, where proof is possible and the Regent Baee is willing to bring it forward. will either obtain restitution of the money or offers from her of proofs of its payment.

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

12. Mr. Malet should have submitted extracts from the chopras above alluded to, referring to the several items entered as bribes given to persons in the employment of Government, and he should also have require the Regent Baee and the karbaree of Wudwan to furnish all the information in their power in regard to these transactions, in order that Government might be enabled to determine what measure should be adopted in this case. Mr. Malet should now be called upon to supply this omission.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 12 February 1845.

No. 1523.

No. 146 of 1844.

From the Political Agent in Kattywar to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 511, 15th of February last, relative to the state of affairs of Wudwan.

2. With reference to the 5th para. I enclose a translation of the entries extracted by me from the Wudwan accounts, as also of the explanation furnished by the Regent Bhaee Bhareraj. The item 52,000 rupees, which does not appear in my extracts from the chopras, was not entered in the accounts, but as I was aware that the money was taken up and entered in the accounts of Premchund Hemchund and Bheenea Bharot, I considered it proper to require an explanation of it, as well as of the others.

3. In reply to the 6th para. I beg to state that, deducting the inadmissible items and interest, I reckoned that the total correct debt against the talooka would amount to *Rs.* 44,522. 10, that part, beyond this amount of the sum of 92,000 rupees due to Premchund Hemchund, being made up from the inadmissible items, and therefore considered by me as not properly involving the talooka.

4. I have dismissed Babajee Krishna, replacing him by Mehta Nuthoojee Megjee, a man who has been employed in the sequestrations for ten years with credit.

5. The measures directed in your letter, No. 3442, of the 18th December 1841, could not be carried out, the thacoor from sickness and disinclination not repairing to Rajcote; I hardly think that his visit to the Political Agent would have been productive of any beneficial effect, his habits of taking intoxicating drugs having been too long confirmed to be broken.

6. The warning directed in Mr. Chief Secretary Reid's letter, No. 1348, June 13th 1843, was duly conveyed to the Bhaee Bhaeeraj, and I do not fear any practice on her part against the chief's life, but his habits cannot be controlled even by her, and it appears to me, that in any measure Government may think fit to direct towards Wudwan, the confirmed imbecility of the thacoor may be assumed.

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

7. With reference to the directions in the 3d para. to expunge certain items from the accounts, I am at a loss how to act on them; unless the talooka is strictly sequestrated, the bankers will require the payment of their instalments, and stoppages for the Bhaee's Nembook, while she retains the power, would lead to no beneficial result; unless therefore sequestration is ordered, which I do not anticipate, I think matters must proceed as at present.

I have, &c.

Kattywar Political Agency,
Rajcote, 16 Dec. 1844.

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Enclosure No. 1, to Government Letter, No. 146, dated 16 December 1844.

Extract from the Wudwan Chopras.

				Rs.	*a.*	*p.*
	1890, leaf 97.	To various persons		5,500	–	–
	„ „ „	Ditto		700	–	–
	„ „ „	Ditto		3,230	9	3
1	„ „ 106.	To Gopalraee		200	–	–
2	„ „ 111.	To Mehta Parbashunker		50	–	–
3	„ „ 122.	To Shewkram Bhuwarnee Shunkur		300	–	–
	„ „ 124.	In Bombay		5,000	–	–
4	„ „ 137.	A buffaloe to Chotumlal		37	–	–
5	„ „ 149.	To Suntookram		150	–	–
6	„ „ „	To Wujeeram		20	–	–
	„ „ „	To servants		20	–	–
7	„ „ 196.	Bhwanee Sing Soobadar		40	–	–
	„ „ „	To Mohobut Khan		5	–	–
			Rs.	15,252	9	3
	1891, leaf 323.	To Mohobut Khan		5	–	–
	„ „ „	To men who went with Chotumlal		20	–	–
8	„ „ 362.	To Hurrebhaee		25	–	–
	„ „ „	To peon		5	8	–
	„ „ „	For cart		5	–	–
			Rs.	60	8	–
	1892, leaf 479.	To Mehta Shewkram		250	–	–
	„ „ „			50	–	–
	„ „ „			50	–	–
	„ „ 494.	To peon Mohobut Khan		40	–	–
	„ „ 501.	To the daughter of Chotumlal on her marriage		600	–	–
9	„ „ 512.	To Mahadoorao		500	–	–
	„ „ „	To Gopalraee		100	–	–
			Rs.	1,590	–	–
	1894, leaf 211.	On arrangement with Munt Wulumgur, through Shah Sugal and Wor Jussa, presents		509	–	–
	„ „ 280.	To Bhaee Shree Bhaeeba		36	–	–
			Rs.	545	–	–
	1895, leaf 442.	By the hands of Dosa and Hurjee		500	–	–
	„ „ 519.	By the intervention of Raujee Anundjee at Rajcote, 15,287 korees, 2 rupees		4,418	8	–
			Rs.	4,918	8	–

Extract from the Wundwan Chopras—*continued.*

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

				Rs.	*a.*	*p.*
	1896, leaf 566.	To the Bhaee Shree		200	–	–
	„ „ 581.	To the Bhaee Shree, for Bheema Bharot		100	–	–
	„ „ 569.	By the Bhaee Shree		550	–	–
	„ „ 612.	To the son of Jemadar Muncharam		30	–	–
	„ „ 643.	To the wife of Jemadar Munsharam		60	–	–
10	„ „ „	To Babajee		100	–	–
	„ „ 661.	To Babajee		150	–	–
	„ „ 740.	By the hands of Muneear Hurjee, out of a sum of *Rs.* 787. 10. 6.		500	–	–
	„ „ „	To the Bhae, out of a sum of *Rs.* 602. 5., for a gold chain		255	3	–
			Rs.	1,945	3	–
	1897, leaf 20.	To Babajee, by the hand of the Bhaee Shree		500	–	–
	„ „ 94.	To Wora Jusraj Gela		100	–	–
	„ „ 99.	As presents on grand occasions to Babajee's son		100	–	–
11	„ „ 124.	Out of an item of 140 to Mehta Jetsojee		115	–	–
	„ „ 127.	Boundary expenses		121	–	–
12	„ „ 131.	By the hands of Bhaee Shree		100	–	–
	„ „ „	To Soobhan Sing, for clothes		15	8	–
	„ „ 147.	To Junadar Muncheram, on account of Chutsoordussa		50	–	–
	„ „ 225.	For a horse to Jemadar Soobhausing		80	–	–
	„ „ „	By the hands of Bhaee Shree		45	–	–
	„ „ „	To Jemadar Muncharam		40	–	–
	„ „ 227.	By the intervention of Bhanshunkur		257	4	3
			Rs.	1,523	12	3
	1898, leaf 261.	To Mehta Jethoojee		50	–	–
	„ „ 264.	To Sugal		500	–	–
	„ „ 282.	To (a name written so that it may be read either) Roodurjee or Roopjee		100	–	–
	„ „ „	As No. 282		100	–	–
	„ „ 327.	By the hand of Bhaee Shree		200	–	–
	„ „ 327.	To Jemadar Muneharam's son on his marriage		200	–	–
	„ „ 333.	By the hand of Bhaee Shree		250	–	–
	„ „ 363.	To Mehta Mahadoorae Soobadar of Wuswantee		200	–	–
	„ „ 401.	From an item of *Rs.* 2,047. 3. to the chief person (Mookhee)		501	–	–
	„ „ „	About Wora Dose		400	–	–
13	„ „ 401.	To Roodurjee		200	–	–
			Rs.	2,701	–	–

Persons connected with the Political Agent's Establishment whose names are in the Wudwan Records as receiving Presents.

1. Gopalraee, at that time tubtee karkoon on the Political Agent's establishment.
2. Purbasshunkur, subordinate to Gopalraee.
3. Shewkram Bhuwarneeshunkur, then head tubtee karkoon in Wudwan.
4. Chotumlal, then native agent.
5. Suntookram, a karkoon, then on the Political Agent's establishment.
6. Wujeeram, then subordinate to No. 5.
7. Mohobut Khan, a peon, then on the Political Agent's establishment.
8. Hurreebhaee, then opium karkoon on the Political Agent's establishment.
9. Mahadooree, then second karkoon on the Political establishment.
10. Babajee, then karkoon of the Political Agency at Wudwan.
11. Jetoojee, the tubteedar of Moonjpoor.
12. Soobhansing, jemadar of police horse.
13. Roodurjee, tubteedar of Kuntarees.

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

Enclosure No. 2, to Government Letter, No. 146, dated 16 December 1844.

TRANSLATION of a Letter from the Regent *Baee Bhaeeraj*, of Midwan, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar, dated 31 July 1844.

A. C.

You have written for an answer to your former letter, enclosing a list of monies paid Government servants, &c., named, demanding on what account these sums were paid, and requiring the proofs thereof. But on inspecting the books with regard to this matter, several items were properly disbursed, therefore it is unnecessary to bring proofs of these, because they are not of a like character. Those persons to whom payments were made, were probably paid in cash; and you will learn, from a separate list herewith sent, the particulars on what account they were paid.

The item of 52,000 rupees, in St. 1890, (A.D. 1833–34), which you have observed is not set down as disbursed (in the accounts of the talooka at the time). When I returned home from Drangdia, I took up money from Wukutchund Kooshalchund, on my private account, to pay the Seebundy, &c.; and I paid back to the said bankers 40,000 rupees, 20,000 in hoondees, and 20,000 in cash, the account of which is inclosed herewith; and the further sum of 12,000 rupees I paid on account of money taken up and disbursed through the mehta, Hurjeewun, for things purchased on the occasions of the marriages of the chief, Rajshungee, and his sister, and for Sebundee expenses, occasioned by the family quarrel. So it was given out by the said Mehta at the time, but on searching the records, no account of the particulars was found; the keeper of the records was again ordered to search thoroughly and find it out, but his search is unsuccessful. The delay that has occurred in replying to your letter has been caused by the search to ascertain in what way the account was written at the time. The horseman messenger, who conveyed your letter, is now very importunate for an answer; therefore, as the accounts are found in the Durbar's books, so they are sent.

(True translation.)

(signed) *Henry Aston*,
Assistant Political Agent.

Information furnished in compliance with the Political Agent's Orders.

		Rs.	*a.*	*p.*
Sumvut 1890 (A.D. 1833.)	In folio 57, is an item of 7,362 rupees; of this, 5,500 was paid to the Baee in cash, and sent to Duwarkanath Dhapoornath and Beehurjee, by her, in fulfilment of a vow, on her return from Drangadia to Wudwan -	5,500	–	–
	In folio 97, is an item of *Rs.* 26,589. 9. 3.; of this, 700 rupees was given in small sums to various people on account of the dearth - - - - - - -	700	–	–
	Also out of the same item of *Rs.* 26,589. 9. 3, the sum of *Rs.* 3,230. 9. 3., as follows:			
	For various small purchases of grass, through Shah Khooshal; namely - - -			
		12	12	–
		19	3	–
		8	8	–
		38	8	–
		31	–	–
		39	12	–
		154	8	–
		22	8	–
		54	8	–
		31	–	–
		23	–	–
		114	–	–
		50	–	–
		17	–	–
		64	8	–
		78	12	–
		73	4	–
		6	8	–
		77	–	–
		915	11	–

Information furnished in compliance with the Political Agent's Orders—*continued.*

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Sumvut 1890 A. D. 1833.	For opium	63	8	–			
	„	8	8	–			
	„	46	6	12			
	„	28	–	–			
	„	37	–	–			
	„	7	–	–			
					184	3	–
	For funeral expenses of the Thala Mudar Sing	265	14	–			
		332	–	–			
					597	14	–
	For cotton seeds for the cattle	165	8	–			
		143	–	–			
					308	8	–
	To 10 Brahmins sent to make offerings at Beehrajee				152	–	–
	For nine women's garments (puttolee), at the marriage of the chief's sister, through Hukumchund Boolakee				86	2	–
	For expenses of sending Kachur Rama and others to Baroda, on the occasion of the death of Yaroo Bahaee				175	8	–
	For red cloth procured from Ahmedabad, through Hukumchund				140	8	–
	For a pair of shawls procured from Ahmedabad for the chief				333	4	–
	For sundry trifling sums for supplies through the Banyan, and for milk, &c.				336	15	3
	In folio 106 is an item of money for a dress to Gopalraee, according to custom				200	–	–
	In folio 122 is an item to the Mehta Shewukram for Sipahee's pay, and his subsistence in the villages, and for a dress				300	–	–
	In folio 111 is an item for a dress, according to custom, to Purbha Sunkur, who was journeying from Rajcote to Ahmedabad				50	–	–
	In folio 124 is an item for 6,700 rupees; of this 5,000 rupees on the Bombay account for Joshee Gudadhur and the Mehta Ruhanjee were sent to Bombay, and the money was probably on account of things procured through them				5,000	–	–
	In folio 137 is an item for a buffaloe sent to Rajcote. The buffaloe was returned, but the amount is set down amongst the general disbursements				37	–	–
	In folio 149 is an item of 190 rupees for dresses, because Suntokram's father and brother were in the service of the Durbar, namely:—						
	To Suntokram	150	–	–			
	To Bujeram	20	–	–			
	To his (Suntokram's) servants	20	–	–			
					190	–	–
	In folio 196 is an item of 40 rupees for a dress to Soobedar Bhowanee Sing, because there was friendship between him and the Durbar, in consequence of which the Subedar had (previously) given a pistol to the Koowur				40	–	–
	To Mohubut Khan, who came to Wudwan on his way from Rajcote to his home				5	–	–
	Total for Sumvut 1890 (A. D. 1833-34)				15,252	9	3
Sumvut 1891 (A. D. 1834-5.)	In folio 323 is an item of 5 rupees to Moohubut Khan, because he presented the Jhala Jotheejee with two knives				5	–	–
	In folio 347 is an item of 20 rupees for the road expenses of the horsemen, Jeeweedas and others, sent with the wife of Chotumlall; he was a horseman of the Durbar's, and therefore his road expenses were paid				20	–	–

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

Information furnished in compliance with the Political Agent's Orders—*continued.*

		Rs. *a.* *p.*
Sumvut 1891 (A. D. 1834-5.)	In folio 362 is an item of *Rs.* 35. 8. made up of the following, namely:—	
	To money for a dress to the Mehta Hurreebhaee - - - - -	*Rs.* 25 – –
	To sweetmeat money to peon - -	5 8 –
	To expenses of pressed carts that went to Moolee, and two horsemen sent with them - - - - - -	5 – –
		35 8 –
	Total for Sumvut 1891 (A. D. 1834-35) - - -	60 8 –
Sumvut 1892 (A. D. 1835-6.)	In folio 479 is an item of 350 rupees made up of payments to the Mehta Shewkram, as follows:—	
	To paid on the occasion of the marriage of Mehta Dulputram (the son of Shewkram) - - - - -	*Rs.* 250 – –
	To paid for a turban on the occasion of his (Shewkram's) mother -	50 – –
	Memo. The above 300 rupees was given to him as being in my service, according to the custom.	
	To paid Shewuhkram for two bullocks purchased of him - - -	50 – –
		350 – –
	In folio 494 is an item of 40 rupees paid to the peon Moohubut Khan, on account of his services after he had been dismissed from the Political Agent's establishment - - - - - - - - -	40 – –
	In folio 501 is an item of 600 rupees sent to Chotumlall, the native agent, on the occasion of his daughter's marriage, because, on the occasion of the marriages of the Koowar and his sister, money and dresses were sent by Chotumlall, and it was proper, according to custom, to send presents, which was done - - -	600 – –
	In folio 512 is an item of 500 rupees paid in Sumvut 1894 (A. D. 1837-38) to the Mehta Madooraee, and admitted by him before Captain Jacob at Limree, when confronted with the Khuwas Mehta; this item is proved - - - - - - - - -	500 – –
	To Gopalree (brother of Chotumlall's wife), on the occasion of his daughter's marriage - - - -	100 – –
	Total for the year Sumvut 1892 (A. D. 1835-36) - -	1,590 – –
Sumvut 1893 (A. D. 1836-7.)		
Sumvut 1894 (A. D. 1837-8.)	In folio 211 is an item of 509 rupees paid in the matter of the dispute of the Durbar with the Munt Wulumghur, about the property of the Munt Jhalumghur to the Munt's people, in consequence of his having come to terms, and made it up with the Durbar, as follows:—	
	To the Sugal Mona - - -	*Rs.* 359 – –
	To Jusraj Wora - - - -	150 – –
		509 – –
	Memo. Both according to custom.	
	In folio 220 is an item, paid on account of expenses of a journey of the lady Pueebha (step-mother of the chief) to Moorvee, Wankaneer, &c. - - - - -	36 – –
	Total for Sumvut 1894 (A. D. 1837-38) - - -	545 – –

Information furnished in compliance with the Political Agent's Orders—*continued.*

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

		Rs.	a.	p.
Sumvut 1895 (A. D. 1838-9.)	In folio 442 is an item of 500 rupees paid to the Mehtas Doza and Hurjee, for things procured through them; but particulars are not detailed in the chopra - -	500	–	–
	In folio 519 is an item of *Rs.* 4,418. 18. 8, made up of sundry trifling expenses for subsistence, and paid to the dealer Turudee Kanjee, during the three months that Jand, the chief, remained at Rajcote, before Mr. Erskine; *Ks.* 15,287. 2, equal to - - - - -	4,418	8	–
	Total for Sumvut 1895 (A. D. 1838-39) - - -	4,918	8	–
		Rs.	*a.*	*p.*			
Sumvut 1896 (A. D. 1839-40.)	In folio 565 - - - - - -	200	–	–			
	In folio 581 - - - - - -	100	–	–			
	In folio 569 - - - - - -	550	–	–			
					850	–	–
	The above three items, amounting to 850 rupees, are set down as paid to the lady (Baeeraj). The explanation is, that in that year the young chief being very ill, this money was expended in sending offerings to the temples at Dwarka, Beehrajeo, and Umbawa.						
	In folio 661, 150 rupees, and in folio 643, 100 rupees: total, 250 rupees, paid to Babajee (the Political Agent's mehta) set down as disbursed, but it was regularly credited by him in his salary account as usual - -				250	–	–
	In folio 612 is an item for a dress for the son of Jemadar Munsharam (of the Political Agent's establishment) on the occasion of taking him into service - -				30	–	–
	In folio 643 is an item, 60 rupees for a dress to the Jemadar Musharam's wife, on the occasion of her sojourn as a guest (when travelling through) - -				60	–	–
	In folio 704 is an item of *Rs.* 787. 10. 6, paid through Muneeae Hurjee, 500 rupees of which he received on pretence of paying it to Eshwuntraee for the proper settlement he had effected in the matter of dispute about an allowance for the bad year, &c. of the expired lease of the villages of Kholeedeeadad and Bapodra, but which sum of 500 rupees he himself kept, and for which he was discharged - - - - - -				500	–	–
	In folio 740 is an item of *Rs.* 602. 5, out of which *Rs.* 255. 3 was paid to the lady (Baeeraj) for the purchase of a golden chain for the young chief - -				255	3	–
	Total for St. 1896, A. D. 1839-40 - - -				1,945	3	–
Sr. 1897. (A. D. 1840)	In folio 20 is an item of 500 rupees set down as paid to Babajee by the lady (Baeeraj). This was paid to be presented in charity at the temple of Rumeesaneea Mahadeo, but through the bookkeeper's neglect the full particulars were not written - - - -				500	–	–
	In folio 94 is an item paid for a dress to Jussa Wora, on account of his advantageous agency in all the affairs of the Durbar - - - - - - - - -				100	–	–
	In folio 124 is an item, 115 rupees paid to the Mehta Jetoojee. This was an account of his pay, and is inserted in his pay account - - - - - -				115	–	–
	In folio 127 is an item of 121 rupees, made up as follows:—						
	For two gold rings, weighing five tolas, paid to a wounded Jemadar on the occasion of his recovery - 85 – –						
	For turbans to the above-mentioned Jemadar and two other persons - - - - 36 – –						
					121	–	–

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

Information furnished in compliance with the Political Agent's Orders—*continued.*

		Rs.	*a.*	*p.*
St. 1897 (A. D. 1840.)	In folio 131 is an item, *Rs.* 115. 8, made up as follows:			
	To the lady (Baeeraj) for payment to the servant of the Jarejah, wife of the young chief who gave information of her purposed treachery towards the young chief, and afterwards joining the Goel wife 100 – –			
	For a piece of woollen cloth purchased from Jemadar Sooban Sing - - - 15 8 –			
		115	8	–
	In folio 147 is an item, paid Jemadar Mushareem on the occasion of his celebration of a particular festival (Anunt Chutoordushee). Because he entertained (fed) the Durbar, therefore it was paid to him, as is customary - - - - - - - - - -	50	–	–
	In folio 225 is an item, 165 rupees, made up as follows:			
	For a horse of Jemadar Soobhan Sing purchased from him - - - - - - - - 80 – –			
	For trifling sums paid by the lady (Beeraj), of which particulars are not stated - - 45 – –			
	A sword was given to the chief by Jemadar Munsharam, who refused money for it, and would not state its price, therefore a present for a dress was given to him - - - 40 – –			
		165	–	–
	In folio 227 is an item, *Rs.* 257. 4. 3 for expenses of the Mehta Bhan Shunkur on the occasion of his going to Veerungaum, as follows:			
	For a pair of silver anklets, purchased to be kept in the Durbar - - - - 200 – –			
	For trifling sundry expenses - - - 57 4 3			
		257	4	3
	In folio 99 is an item, 100 rupees paid, as is customary, to Babajee on the occasion of the investiture of his son with the sacred string, when he entertained (fed) the Durbar, &c. - - - - - - - -	100	–	–
	Total for St. 1897, (A. D. 1840-41) - - -	1,523	12	3
St. 1898 (A. D. 1841-42)	In folio 261 is an item, 50 rupees for a dress to the Mehta Jethoojee, on the occasion of his leaving when (the attachment was) removed - - - -			
	In folio 264 is an item, 500 rupees to Sha Sugal Mona. The explanation is, that the fixed sum, according to the decision of the Punchayet, being paid, and the quarrel made up in the affair of the villages of Khobedeead and Bapooda, a dress was given to Sugal Mona (the agent of the opposite party), and he also, indeed, made presents to the khowas Madha and others, as is customary - - - - - - - -	500	–	–
	In folio 282 is a item, 100 rupees; and in folio 287 is an item, 100 rupees: total, 200 rupees, paid either to Roodurjee or Roopjee. Now, Roopjee is a Brahmin of Wudwan, and his nephew was going to Kashee, and this money was given for his offering (at the temple), and for the expenses of his journey - - - -	200	–	–
	In folio 327 is an item, 200 rupees to the Jemadar Munsharam on the occasion of his son's marriage, because his son was in the service of the Durbar; and, moreover, the Durbar and the people of the Durbar were entertained (fed) by him on the occasion - -	200	–	–
	In folio 327 is an item, 200 rupees, and in folio 333 is an item, 250 rupees: total rupees, 450, paid to the lady (Baeeraj) which was sent by her to (the temple of) Dakoornath to purchase the performance of holy ceremonies - - - - - - - - -	450	–	–

Information furnished in compliance with the Political Agent's Orders—*continued.*

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

		Rs	*a.*	*p.*
St. 1898 (A. D. 1841–42)	In folio 363 is an item, 200 rupees to the Mehta Madooraee. This was in place of a dress presented, because in the sequestration imposed in the matter of dispute with the Kattie joint states, the Mehta in all things had regard to the Durbar's interests, when no person of the Durbar was present, and prevented its interest suffering, as if he were personally concerned - -	200	–	–
	In folio 401 is an item, *Rs.* 2,047. 3; out of this 501 rupees is written as paid to the Mookhee (principal person or persons). This money was paid in the said year as presents to Thakursee and the Khowas Madha on their return from Rajcote, whither they had gone. On going to Rajcote these persons were mookhee - - - -	501	–	–
	In folio 501 is an item, 400 rupees in the matter of Wora Dosa Lalchund. This money was paid to Ranasha Munoba for sundry small disbursements made by him while he was with Dosa Wora (whom he accompanied to Rajcote) - - - - - - -	400	–	–
	In folio 401 is an item, 200 rupees to Roodurjee. This money was paid to Roodurjee on account of Rajcote, and was paid back through Sha Thakursee, who accounted for it in another account - - - - -	200	–	–
	Total St. 1898, (A. D. 1841–42) - - -	2,701	–	–

(True translation.)

(signed) *Henry Aston,*
Assistant Political Agent.

Minute by the Honourable Board.

No. 1524.

1. Mr. Malet should be directed to report whether any of the persons whose names are entered in the Wudwan chopras as having received presents, are still in the employment of Government, or whether any of them are in the receipt of pensions; if so, in the former case, unless able to exonerate themselves from all suspicion of corrupt conduct, they should be suspended pending an inquiry into their conduct; and in the case of any persons in the receipt of pensions, the further payment of their stipends should be suspended until their conduct has been inquired into.

2. The explanation in para. 3 is satisfactory.

3. Mr. Malet has omitted to state whether, as authorised in the Government letter dated the 15th February last, he has appointed an able and trustworthy carcoon, on the part of the British Government, to see that the arrangements for the better management of this estate, which he effected in the early part of the year 1843, are rigidly adhered to; Mr. Malet should also, as directed in that communication, report at the end of one year from the period when this arrangement came into operation, with what success it has been attended, since, should this measure fail, I fear we shall ultimately have no alternative than to place this estate under attachment.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
T. M'Mahon.
J. H. Crawford.
L. R. Reid.

5 February 1845.

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

No. 1525.

No. 780 of 1845.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar.

Sir,

1. I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 16th December last, No. 146, forwarding translation of the entries extracted from the Wudwan chopras, referring to sums given as presents to persons in the employment of Government, and of the explanation furnished by the Regent Bhaee Bhaeeraj on the subject.

2. In reply, I am desired to request that you will be pleased to report, for the information of Government, whether any of these persons are still in the employment of Government, or whether any of them are in the receipt of pensions; if so, in the former case, unless able to exonerate themselves from the suspicion of corruption, they should be suspended pending an inquiry into their conduct; and in the case of any persons in the receipt of pensions, the further payment of their stipends should be suspended until their conduct has been inquired into.

3. The explanation contained in the third paragraph of your letter, relative to the debt due by the Talooka is satisfactory.

4. I am at the same time desired to observe, that you have omitted to state whether, as authorised in the seventh paragraph of my letter, dated the 15th February last, you have appointed an able and trustworthy carcoon on the part of the British Government, to see that the arrangement recently effected by you for the better management of the Wudwan estate is rigidly adhered to; you will therefore be pleased to supply this omission.

5. As directed in my communication above alluded to, you will be pleased to report at the end of one year, from the period when this arrangement came into operation, with what success it has been attended, since, should this measure fail, Government will ultimately have no alternative but to place the estate under attachment.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 11 February 1845.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 23 April 1845.

Extract Paragraph 11, from a Letter from the Honourable the Court of Directors; dated 4 December 1844, No. 36.

11. Your warning to the Regent Baee of Wudwan, against the continuance of her neglect (to give it no worse name) of the physical and moral welfare of the young chief, has proved useless. The mehta Babajee Keishna, who was placed at Wudwan to see that the Baee fulfilled her engagement, has entirely failed of his duty, and the Thacoor is reported to be imbecile. The Baee's financial administration has also been wasteful, and a considerable debt has been contracted, for a part of which three villages belonging to the state have been mortgaged to a banker. The accounts have now been examined by Mr. Malet; some objectionable items, and others properly chargeable to the Baee personally, have been struck out, and Mr. Malet is of opinion that, under proper management, there would be a surplus of 25,000 rupees per annum applicable to the liquidation of the debts, and to the maintenance of the agency necessary for enforcing the arrangement. Your Government has not consented to sanction any other agency than that of a carcoon to be stationed at Wudwan experimentally for one year. We shall expect to receive a full report on the effects of this arrangement, and to be furnished with Mr. Malet's reply to your requisition upon him, to suggest anything which can still be done for the improvement of the young Thakoor.

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

No. 2036 of 1845.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar.

Sir,

With reference to the correspondence noted in the margin* relative to the affair of Wudwan, I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you extract, paragraph 11, of a despatch on this subject from the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated the 4th December last, No. 136, and to request that you will be pleased to submit to Government a report of the nature therein required.

No. 4002.

* *See* below.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 25 April 1845.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 21 May 1845. No 4734.

Government, No. 30 of 1845.—General, No. 116 of 1845.

From the Political Agent in Kattywar, to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 780, of the 11th instant, and to inform you, that the only persons whose names being entered in the Wudwan accounts are at present in employ, are—

Roodurjee, the sequestration mehta at Kauntoreea.
Soobhan Sing, the jemadar of police horse.
Munsharam, jemadar of peons employed at Wudwan.

Besides these are—

Chotumlall, late native agent, now a pensioner.
Mahadooraee and Jejoojee, mehtas lately employed in sequestrations, but at present out of employ.

I have required all these persons to state the circumstances under which they received the sums entered to their names; unless satisfactory, those now in employ will be suspended, and all will be reported to Government for further orders.

2. The report of the employment of Nuthoojee Megjee, contained in the fourth paragraph, was intended for the information required in the fourth paragraph of your letter now replied to.

3. The accounts for the first year will be submitted to Government on receipt of some explanations I have required from the Durbar, which also has been warned to prepare quickly those for the second year.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Kattywar Political Agency, Rajcote, 20 February 1845.

Minute by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and the Honourable Mr. *Reid*. No. 4735.

The Political Agent may be informed, his further report will be awaited.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
T. M'Mahon.
L. R. Reid.

6 May 1845.

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* From the Political Agent in Kattywar, dated 28th March, No. 40 of 1843. To the Political Agent in Kattywar, dated 25th April, No. 890 of 1843. To the Political Agent in Kattywar, dated 13th June, No. 1348 of 1843. From the Political Agent in Kattywar, dated 19th May, No. 62 of 1843. To the Political Agent in Kattywar, dated 15th February, No. 511 of 1844.

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

No. 2421 of 1845.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary Government, Bombay, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar.

Sir,

No. 4736. I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 20th February last, No. 30, and to inform you that the Honourable the Governor in Council will await your further report of the circumstances under which certain persons in the employment of Government are alleged to have received presents from the Wudwan Durbar.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Bombay Castle, 19 May 1845. Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 9051. Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 8 October 1845.

No. 4625 of 1845.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to call your attention to my letter, dated the 25th April last, No. 2036, and to request that you will be pleased to expedite the transmission of the report therein required, relative to the affairs of Wudwan.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Bombay Castle, 6 October 1845. Chief Secretary.

No. 10806. Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 17 December 1845.

No. 5556 of 1845.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Kattywar.

Sir,

I AM again directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to call your attention to my letter, dated the 25th April last, No. 2036, and to request that you will be pleased to expedite the transmission of the report therein required, relative to the affairs of Wudwan.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Bombay Castle, 17 December 1845. Chief Secretary.

No. 2467. Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 8 April 1846.

Government, No. 20 of 1846.—General, No. 42.

From the Political Agent in Kattywar to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Sir,

WITH reference to the correspondence as per margin,* concerning Wudwan, I have the honour to report on the affairs of that state.

2. My letter of the 16th December, No. 146 of 1844, in reply to yours of the 15th February, No. 511 of 1841, disposed of most of the questions; there remain merely the items in the accounts entered as given to certain persons in Government

* Letter to Government, No. 40, 28 March 1843. Letter from Government, No. 890, 25 April 1843. Letter to Government, No. 62, 19 May 1843. Letter from Government, No. 1348, 13 June 1843. Letter from Government, No. 511, 15 February 1844. Letter to Government, No. 146, 16 December 1844. Letter from Government, No. 780, 11 February 1845. Letter from Government, No. 2036, 25 April 1845. Letter to Government, No. 38, 14 March 1845. Letter from Government, No. 2980, 20 June 1845. Letter from Government, No. 5556, 17 December 1845.

ment employ, on which subject a separate report is forwarded, and the working of the arrangements sanctioned by Government, in the seventh paragraph of the letter No. 511.

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

3. The fourth paragraph of my letter, No. 146, 16th December 1844, stated the dismissal of the karkoon formerly stationed at Wudwan, and the employment of Nuthoojee Megjee, who had creditably acquitted himself during 10 years of employment in various sequestrations, which I now mention, as from the tenor of the fourth paragraph of your letter, No. 780, 11th February 1845, it appears to have escaped notice.

4. Enclosed are three statements of the receipts and disbursements of Wudwan for the years 1899 (1842–43), 1900 (1843–44), 1901 (1844–45), and appended to each is a list of disbursements which, in a strict sequestration, could only be permitted on explanation and proof of their necessity.

5. The total expenditure of this description in 1899 (A.D. 1842–43), amounts to *Rs.* 7564. 0. 6, but of these the sixth and ninth items are such as an explanation would be easily given for; the rest, consisting of Durbar expenses, *Rs.* 346. 2. 3; additional expenses of the Mandwe, *Rs.* 205. 7. 3; extra remissions and presents to farmers, *Rs.* 62. 10. 3; allowances to the Gunod's wife 180 rupees; interest and exchange 719 rupees; extra Sebundee expenses, *Rs.* 1,707. 14, are, I think, all that, even under attachment, would be entirely or partly disallowed; they amount to *Rs.* 3,221. 1. 9, and I consider that, under the circumstances of the government of the estate, this, with the small excess of expenditure of *Rs.* 865. 6, is favourable evidence of the management of the Regent Bhaee Raj.

6. The statement for the year 1900, (A.D. 1843–44,) is not quite so favourable. It had been agreed on, that the expenses of the mandwee or custom which had been allowed at 7,000 rupees the preceding year, should be diminish to 6,000 rupees, but this I would not press, as the decrease under the circumstances would be distateful; there is also a sum of 1,000 rupees extra, on account of interest, for which it would be difficult to assign a satisfactory reason; subsistence for Durbar servants, 2,000 rupees, which should not have been expended, as well as all the expenses for the intercalary months, amounting to *Rs.* 4,953. 2, which as the payments should have been fixed for the year, there should not have been a necessity for; these, after deducting the travelling expenses, *Rs.* 1,840. 8. 6, and the costs of the articles and animals bought for the Durbar, 4,206 rupees and perhaps the first extra item of 1,000 rupees from the customs, would show an expenditure of *Rs.* 7,954. 2, which under attachment would be disallowed; but even with this improper expenditure, the balance of a debt due to Premchund Wukutchund, for which the Nagues district was security, amounting to *Rs.* 9,048. 9. 6, has been discharged, and grain to the amount of *Rs.* 4,261. 8. 9, has been stored with an excess expenditure of 4,200 rupees; upon the whole, therefore, though not so satisfactory as to should have been, I do not think Bhaee Raj to blame for this year's management.

7. In the statement for 1901, (A.D. 1844–45,) there are two items similar to those of the last year, viz. 1,000 rupees for extra expenses on the customs; 2,000 rupees for Durbar servants: one item for purchase of animals for the Durbar, amounting to 557 rupees; another for purchase of articles for the Durbar to the amount of 121 rupees; travelling expenses, *Rs.* 1063. 11; for cutting grass *Rs.* 352. 9; and an item called a payment for a delay in the liquidation of 2,000 rupees due to bankers, of 500 rupees. Of these the first might be admitted, and the third, fourth, fifth, and last would probably be explained without difficulty, which would leave the sum of 2,352 rupees, which would probably be disallowed; this is not much, and Bhaee Raj may be thought to have managed this year's expenditure comparative well, more especially as there appears in cash, receipts, ornaments, and grain, a surplus of *Rs.* 6,745. 3. 3, with an excess expenditure of *Rs.* 75. 5. 9.

8. On the whole it may be considered that the pecuniary administration by by Bhaee Raj is as good as under the circumstances (perhaps I may say better than) could have been expected, although there is an omission in the credit side of the account for the two last years of the revenues from her Jeewaee villages, the amount of which I have required to be brought to the credit of the estate. I have, however, written to the Durbar, disapproving the variations from the

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

expenditure which I had fixed, and holding the Regent responsible for such as the Government might refuse to sanction.

9. I wish that the domestic affairs of the family could be stated to have improved, but it is not so; the quarrel between the Regent and Gohelwoo remains as it was, and her advice is as little asked or attended to as previous to my arrangements. The Thakoor's habits also are unimproved; his age has placed him beyond control from any members of his own family, and I do not now vary from the opinion expressed at the end of the 6th para. of my letter of the 16th December 1844, nor do I see any method by which, without personal restraint, his habits could be changed.

10. With reference to the latter part of the 10th para. of my letter, No. 62, 18 May 1843, I am informed that two others of the Thakoor's wives are now pregnant; one is the Kotee Jareejee, who sides with Gohelwoo; the other is the Gunod Jareejee, who is of Bhaee Raj, the Regent's party.

11. The Thakoor's wife, the mother of the apparent heir, died as reported in my letter, No. 111, 26 December 1844, and I regret to say that the arrangements for the Koonwur suggested in my letter, No. 20, of the 1st February 1845, and sanctioned in Government letter, No. 1830, April 14th, have not been carried into effect, the grandmother, after at one time consenting, having, on the 21st October last, refused on any terms to undertake the charge.

12. One of the widows of the late Thakoor has now offered to take charge of the child on certain conditions; a translation of her memorandum is transmitted, with a separate letter for the consideration of Government.

13. During the last year the karbaree Sha Dya Peetumber has been dismissed, and no other person of repute has been entertained in his place; I was, therefore, obliged to sequestrate the district, and have estimated the revenue for 1902, which amounts to about 51,000 rupees. Security to this amount was, however, given by the Regent, and the sequestration was consequently removed; if the revenue, however, of the Regent's Jeewoee villages be refused to the state, they will be attached.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency, Rajcote,
15 January 1846.

STATEMENT of Receipts and Disbursements of the Wudwan Talooka, from 2d Kartigsood, St. 1899, to 2d Kartigsood, St. 1900.

RECEIPTS.	*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*
Revenues of the town of Wudwan	28,800	15	–
Ditto of the Purgunnahs	44,495	–	–
Tribute and Loortulbee from the Bhyad & Co. sharers	2,125	8	–
Plough tax from the Purgunnahs	10,214	4	–
Revenues from the village of Velawuddur, given as subsistence to Deda Bawajee	625	–	–
Sale proceeds of grain	18,660	–	–
Amount of fines, &c.	2,491	–	–
Revenues of two villages belonging to Baee Baeeraj	5,618	–	–
	1,13,029	11	–
Recredited amount of fines imposed on account of the disturbance at Saela, the same having been paid from the sum of 1,68,000 rupees borrowed from the firm of Bremabhaee Hemchund	5,100	–	–
Marriage tax from the inhabitants	6,549	8	–
Recovered amount on certain dues payable by cultivators	660	–	–
Recovered from Kachur Bhoj, &c., on account of certain demands payable by them	650	–	–
Presents	100	–	–
Price of about 100 kulsees of grain held in deposit at the Durbar	2,000	–	–
Rs.	1,28,089	–	–

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

DISBURSEMENTS.

				Rs.	*a.*	*p.*
Household expenses				12,000	–	–
Extra expenses incurred at the Custom-house				7,000	–	–
Amount of remissions and turbans granted to the farmers of the town of Wudwan				700	–	–
Stationery				700	–	–
Begaree hire, for cutting hay, and value of green grass				1,400	–	–
Subsistence granted from the Custom-house to the mothers and wives of the Chief				1,260	–	–
Salary of the Government Mehta and Jemadar, stationed at Wudwan				573	8	–
Interest and exchange				2,000	–	–
Provision to Durbar servants				2,000	–	–
Tribute and Zoorlubee, &c.				31,091	9	6
Sebundee expenses				12,000	–	–
Amount of village expenses for provisions supplied to Durbar servants and others				4,500	–	–
Opium				700	–	–
Amount of the Kattees' shares at Wustree and other villages				2,615	–	–
Subsistence to Jareejee Wuhoo, of Gunod				800	–	–
				79,340	1	6
Paid to Gohebbaee, being balance due to her, and expenses incurred for provisions, medicines, &c., supplied to the sister of Puncholee Idaojee, as per Government order				2,553	4	–
Expenses incurred on marriage of Koower Ruwajee at Mowee				1,531	5	3
Expenses incurred on three marriages of the Thackoor, including dowry				11,929	4	9
Mohsul expenses				613	4	–
Fines imposed on disturbances at Saela; amount of exchange, and pay of jubtee establishment				5,135	–	–
Paid to the firm of Premabhaee Hemchund, on account of instalments payable to him				14,175	–	–
Wultur to Brahmins of Saela and Malod	*Rs.* 87	8	–			
Amount levied as transit duties refunded to the Saela Chief	11	9	6			
				99	1	6
Expenses incurred during the half-year in excess of the Nemnok:						
	Rs.	*a.*	*p.*			
Durbar expenses	346	2	3			
Extra expenses incurred at the Custom-house	205	7	3			
Remissions and turbans granted to the farmers of the town	62	10	3			
Expenses incurred to pursuade certain Mahjuns of Wudwan not to quit the Talooka	258	–	–			
Allowance to the Jarejee Wuvo, of Gunod, according to agreement	180	–	–			
Interest and exchange	719	–	–			
Marriage and funeral presents to relatives and friends	1,032	–	–			
Journey expenses to Ahmedabad, Rajcote, and Wankaner, &c.	2,728	14	9			
Sebundee expenses	1,707	14	–			
Allowance to Barot Bheema, and shop expenses	701	–	–			
Expenses for feeding Brahmins	110	–	–			
Amount of expenses for milk, vegetable, grass, firewood, &c., supplied to the Bhoomeas who accompanied the Political Agent's camp to Wudwan	302	12	–			
Value of a pearl necklace, rings, gold necklace, and a conveyance, &c., purchased for the Durbar	1,614	–	–			
Paid in liquidation of old demands	90	6	6			
Salaries to the Karbarees	3,506	–	–			
Amount of Sookree on account of Korda and Wustree, and balance of B. tribute on Kerala	94	–	–			
	13,658	3	–			
Deduct less expended than the nemnook for cutting grass	*Rs.* 29	*a.* 15	*p.* –			
For subsistence to the Durbar servauts	50	–	–			
	79	15	–			
				13,578	4	–
			Rs.	1,28,954	9	–

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

List of Objectionable Disbursements in the Year 1899.

	Rs.	a.	p.
1. Durbar expenses	346	2	3
2. Extra expenses incurred at the Mandwee	205	7	3
3. Remissions and turbans granted to the town farmers	62	10	3
4. Allowance to the Gunod Wife	180	–	–
5. Interest and exchange	719	–	–
6. Travelling expenses	2,728	14	9
7. Sebundee expenses	1,707	14	–
8. Value of articles purchased for the Durbar	1,614	–	–
TOTAL Rs.	7,564	–	6

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

STATEMENT of Receipts and Disbursements of the Wudwun Talooka, from Karting Sood 2d, to Assowud 15th, St. 1900.

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	a.	p.
Revenues of the town of Wudwan	31,949	3	–
Plough and other taxes from ditto	1,772	5	6
Revenues of the Purgunnahs, in cash	53,815	11	9
Plough and other taxes from the Purgunnahs	11,041	9	3
Tribute and Zoortulbee from the Bhayad & Co., sharers	2,125	8	–
Sale proceeds of grain sold during the year, and value of that retained for Durbar use	14,007	4	–
Presents and Fines:			
Fee from Gohel Veera Megh, on his obtaining management of Wustree, and four other villages, for a term of seven years, under a written agreement — Rs. 4,000 – –			
Quarter share of sale proceeds of land and fines — 2,125 – –			
	6,125	–	–
	1,20,836	9	6
Re-credited allowance made from the Custom-house to the mothers and wives of the chief (1,440 rupees), afterwards deducting 525 rupees paid to them up to 10th of Phagun Sood	915	–	–
TOTAL Rs.	1,21,751	9	6

DISBURSEMENTS.	Rs.	a.	p.
Amount of British tribute, Zoortulbee and Sookree, the latter payable on account of Wustree and Korday	31,188	3	6
Household expenses	12,000	–	–
Amount of expenses drawn in the Custom-house	7,000	–	–
Interest and exchange	3,000	–	–
Hire of cutting grass	1,400	–	–
Remissions and turbans granted to farmers	700	–	–
Extra exchange incurred at villages	4,500	–	–
Stationery expenses	700	–	–
Allowance granted from the Custom-house to the mothers and wives of the Chief	1,440	–	–
Seebundee expenses	12,000	–	–
Salary of the Government Mehta and Jemadar, &c., stationed at Wudwun	573	8	–
Subsistence to Durbar servants	2,000	–	–
Expenses incurred in feeding itinerant mendicants during the monsoon	500	–	–
Amount of Kattees' shares at Wutree, and other villages, after deducting value of their share of grain and cotton	815	–	–
Paid to Premabhaee Henchund, on account of instalments payable to him	14,175	–	–
Salaries of the Karbharees	3,506	–	–
Opium	700	–	–

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

DISBURSEMENTS—*continued.*

	Rs.	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*
Expenses incurred according to Government Order:						
Wultur paid to the Chiefs of Limree and Saela - -	179	–	–			
Mohsul expenses - - - - - - - - - -	539	–	–			
Paid in the Government Treasury, being balance of tribute for St. 1899 - - - - - - - - -	6	4	3			
Pay to the Government Mehta and Jamadar for the intercalary month in St. 1900 - - - - - - -	47	12	–			
				772	–	3
Expenses incurred in excess of the Nemnok; viz., household expenses during the intercalary month - - -	862	10	–			
For cutting extra grass, purchase of green grass, ditto -	502	10	–			
Interest and exchange for ditto - - - - - -	250	–	–			
Salaries to the Karbharees; viz.:						
To Gohel Veera Megh, to whom the management of Wustree, and four other villages has been given:						
The fee paid by him is credited in this account to the head of Presents and Fines *Rs.* 501 – –						
To the Karbharees for the intercalary month 288 – –						
	789	–	–			
Opium for the Karbharees for the intercalary month -	160	–	–			
Expenses incurred in the custom-house for the Karbharees for the intercalary month - - - - - - -	583	–	–			
Paid in liquidation of old demands - - - - -	25	10	6			
Village expenses for the intercalary month, the produce of the villages having been increased - - - - -	1,010	2	–			
Funeral expenses of Jareeja Unoo, of Khewlia, died on the 5th Bhadurwa Sood - - - - - - - -	1,835	–	–			
Marriage and funeral presents to relatives and friends, according to custom - - - - - - - - -	1,450	14	6			
Journey expenses to Ahmedabad, Rajcote, Wankaner, &c.	1,840	8	6			
Expenses incurred to keep the cultivator's Minka from quitting that village - - - - - - - - -	75	–	–			
Expenses incurred for opium, and presents made to the mool grassias of the Burnea village sold to the Durbar -	301	4	–			
Subscription towards erection of the temple Khumeesuneed Madeo - - - - - - - - - - -	130	–	–			
By amount granted to the firm of Hernabhaee, on his way from Palitana: an interchange of presents to the Chief, consisting of a gold necklace and clothes - - -	300	–	–			
Paid to Silidar Kooreshee Peerum, as indemnity for a mare which died while proceeding on duty to Moorvee, in St. 1899, on the occasion of the marriage of Koowur Rewagee of that Talooka - - - - - - - -	100	–	–			
Value of ornaments, horses, carriages, bullocks, and buffaloes for the Durbar - - - - - - - -	4,206	–	–			
Seebundee expenses for the intercalary month - - -	1,250	–	–			
				15,671	11	6
Paid to Premabhaee Hemchund, being balance of a loan of 3,000 rupees received from him on the 2d of Jest Sood, St. 1891, on deed written on stamp paper, mortgaging him the Nagnes Suppa, which deed was returned, the demand having been fully adjusted. Principal on the 2d Jest Sood, St. 1899 - - - *Rs.* 11,500 – –						
Interest - - - - - - 1,734 9 6						
	13,234	9	6			
Deduct—Amount of an order for 600 rupees for marriage presents to Chotumlal in St. 1892; the same not having been received by him, was credited under the head of "shakhat," in the books of the firm of Wukuchund Kooshalchund. This entry was discovered by Dayabhaee and Bhanshunker, on their proceeding to Ahmedabad for adjustment of the above deed; the amount, therefore, is now deducted with interest - - *Rs.* 900 – –						
Remissions from the interest of the loan of 3,000 rupees - - - - - 600 – –						
Paid from the produce of Magness - - 2,686 – –						
	4,186	–	–			
				9,048	9	6
Carried forward - - -				1,21,690	–	9

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

DISBURSEMENTS—*continued.*

	Rs.	a.	p.
Brought forward - - - - -	1,21,690	–	9
Value of 172½ kulsees and 15 mops of Juwaree, deposited in pits at Wudwan and Khoroo - - - - - - - - - - -	2,589	9	6
Value of 112½ and 9 mops of grain, deposited in the warehouse - -	1,671	15	3
Rs.	1,25,951	9	6

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

List of Objectionable Disbursements for 1900.

	Rs.	a.	p.
1. From the items of interest and exchange, 3,000 - - - -	1,000	–	–
2. Subsistence to Durbar servants - - - - - - - -	2,000	–	–
3. Mehta and Jemadars, &c., for the intercalary month - - -	47	12	–
4. Household expenses - ditto ditto - - - -	862	10	–
5. For grass, &c. - - ditto ditto - - - -	502	10	–
6. Interest - - - ditto ditto - - - -	250	–	–
7. Karbarees - - - ditto ditto - - - -	288	–	–
8. Opium - - - ditto ditto - - - -	160	–	–
9. Mandwee - - - ditto ditto - - - -	583	–	–
10. Village expenses - - ditto ditto - - - -	1,010	–	2
11. Travelling expenses - - - - - - - - -	1,840	8	6
12. Articles purchased for the Durbar - - - - - -	4,206	–	–
13. Sebundee expenses for the intercalary month - - - - -	1,250	–	–
TOTAL - - *Rs.*	14,000	10	6

(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

STATEMENT of Receipts and Disbursements of the Wudwan Talooka, from Kartig Sood 2d, to Asso Wud (Christmas), St. 1901.

RECEIPTS.	Rs.	a.	p.
Revenue of the town of Wudwan, in cash and plough, and other taxes -	22,845	9	6
Revenue of the Purgunnahs, in cash - - - - - - - -	49,089	15	–
Plough and other taxes from ditto - - - - - - - -	11,054	7	6
Sale proceeds of grain sold during the year - - - - - -	14,181	12	–
Tribute and zoortubbee from the Bhyad and co-sharers - - - -	2,125	8	–
Presents and Fines:			
Fee from Patels, in obtaining management of villages - - - -	3,419	14	6
	1,02,717	2	6
Revenue from Nagues Talooka, deducting expenses - - - -	6,153	1	6
Re-credited allowance made from the Custom-house to the mother and wives of the Chief - - - - - - - - - - - -	1,440	–	–
Rs.	1,10,310	4	–

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

DISBURSEMENTS.				*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*
Amount of British tribute, zoortubbee and sookree, the latter payable on account of Wustree and Kordee				31,188	3	6
Household expenses				12,000	–	–
Seebundee expenses				12,000	–	–
Amount of expenses drawn on the Custom-house				7,000	–	–
Interest and exchange				2,000	–	–
Hire for cutting grass, and value of green grass				1,400	–	–
Remissions to farmers				700	–	–
Extra expenses at villages				4,500	–	–
Stationery expenses				700	–	–
Opium ditto				700	–	–
Amount of the Kattees' shares at Wustree and other villages				2,615	–	–
Allowance granted from the Custom-house to the mother and wives of the Chief				1,440	–	–
Salary of the Government mehta and jemadar stationed at Wudwan				573	–	–
Subsistence to Durbar servants				2,000	–	–
Salaries of the karbarees				3,267	8	–
Paid to Premabhye Hemabhye, on account of instalments payable to him				14,175	–	–
Expenses incurred in feeding itinerant mendicants during the monsoon				500	–	–
Expenses incurred according to Government order, Wultur paid to the Chiefs of Saeela, Budwana, &c.	*Rs.* 629	6	–			
Mohsul expenses	325	8	–			
				954	14	–
Expenses incurred in excess of the Nemnok, &c.						
Value of two horses, one bullock, and one buffalo for the Durbar	557	–	–			
Value of two guns, two pistols, one sword, and one dagger	121	–	–			
Modee expenses at Rajcote	750	–	–			
Journey expenses to Bhooj, Bhownuggur, Veerungaum, Rajcote, and Moorvee	1,063	11	–			
Marriage and funeral presents to relations and friends, according to custom	928	12	9			
Hire for cutting grass, and expense of carriage, of which 88 rupees were received from the cultivators debited under the head of Presents and Fines	352	9	–			
Paid to Brahmin Geomancers, on the birth of Koower Chundersing	100	–	–			
Presents to a jogee	160	–	–			
For repairing fort	189	–	–			
Expenses incurred on the return of cultivators from Saeela and other villages, where they had migrated	155	–	–			
Expenses in making two new rowtees	65	–	–			
Ditto incurred in certain repairs to the villages of Kobreead, Bapodur, Wustree, and Korda	484	3				
Interest for delay in the payment of 2,000 rupees to Premabhaee Aemchund and Barot Bheema Wukutsing	500	–	–			
Paid to Goel Veera Meg, as salary	500	–	–			
				5,926	4	–
Value of gold and silver ornaments				2,147	1	6
Ditto of 145 kulsee of Jooaree deposited in pits at Wudwan and Khoroo				2,031	12	–
Cash				2,000	–	–
In receipts				566	5	9
			Rs.	1,10,385	9	9

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

List of Objectionable Items for 1901.

		Rs.	*a.*	*p.*
1.	Subsistence to Durbar servants	2,000	–	–
2.	Value of purchases for the Durbar	557	–	–
3.	Ditto ditto	121	–	–
4.	Travelling expenses	1,063	11	–
5.	Expenses for grass	352	9	–
6.	Interest for delay in payment of 2,000 rupees	500	–	–
	TOTAL *Rs.*	4,594	4	–

(signed) *A. Malet*, Political Agent.

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Board.

No. 2468.

1. WITH the acccompanying letter, Mr. Malet has submitted three statements of the receipts and disbursements of the Wudwan estate for the years 1842-43, 1843-44, and 1844-45, under the administration of the Regent B haee Bhajeeraj. The following is an abstract of the results exhibited in t hese statements :

	1842-43.			1843-44.			1844-45.		
	Rs.	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*
Receipts - - - - -	128,089	3	–	121,751	9	6	110,310	4	–
Disbursements - - -	128,954	9	–	125,951	9	6	110,385	9	9
Excess of Expenditure over receipts in each year - -	865	4	–	4,200	–	–	75	5	9

2. The decrease in the revenues of this estate during the two latter years, it may be presumed, is more apparent than real, being principally occasioned by no entries having been made during those years under the heads mentioned in the margin,* corresponding with similar entries made for the year 1842-43. The second of these items especially requires explanation, since Mr. Malet states, that in the arrangement which he formerly made for the future management of this estate, it was specially provided that the revenues from the two Jeewaee villages belonging to the Regent Bhaee, should annually be credited to the Wudwan estate. Mr. Malet has therefore written to the Regent Bhaee, pointing out this omission, and requiring her to credit this amount for both years to the estate. Mr. Malet does not allude to the other two omissions which I have pointed out, and his attention should therefore be called to them. In regard, however, to the third item, Mr. Malet should report whether the tax alluded to was a cess levied in 1842-43, on the occasion of the young chief's marriage, or whether it is a tax levied on marriages contracted by the inhabitants of Wudwan.

* *See* below.

3. The instalment of 14,175 rupees per annum, fixed for the liquidation of the debt due to the firm of Premabhaee Hemchund, appears to have been regularly paid during each of the three years reported on, as also the tribute and other dues of the British Government. The balance of a debt due to Premchund Wuckutchund, amounting to *Rs.* 9,048. 9. 6., for the payment of which the Nagnes district was mortgaged, was also discharged in full during the years 1843-44, and grain to the amount of *Rs.* 4,261. 8. 9., had been stored at the end of 1843-44. These results are satisfactory.

4. Mr. Malet has also forwarded with this report separate lists of items of disbursements made during these three years, which are at variance with the scale of expenditure which he fixed for this estate, and which he therefore submits for the consideration and decision of Government. These items are as follows :

	Rs.	*a.*	*p.*
* Revenues from the village of Velawuddur, given as subsistence to Deda Bawajee	625	–	–
Revenues of two villages belonging to Baee Baeeraj - - - - -	5,618	–	–
Marriage tax from the inhabitants - - - - - - - -	6,549	8	–
TOTAL - - - *Rs.*	12,792	8	–

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

No.		1842–43.	1843–44.	1844–45.
		Rs. a. p.	*Rs.* a. p.	*Rs.* a. p.
1	Durbar expenses	346 2 3	—	—
2	Extra expenses incurred at the Manduvee or Custom	205 7 3	*583 – –	—
3	Extra remissions and turbans granted to the town farmers	62 10 3	—	—
4	Extra allowance to the Thakoor's wife, Jareejee of Gunode	180 – –	—	—
5	Interest and exchange	719 – –	1,000 – –	—
6	Travelling expenses	2,728 14 9	1,840 8 6	1,063 11 –
7	Extra sebundy expenses	1,707 14 –	*1,250 – –	—
8	Value of articles purchased for the Durbar	1,614 – –	4,206 – –	121 – –
9	Subsistence to Durbar servants	– – –	2,000 – –	2,000 – –
10	Purchase of animals for the Durbar	– – –	– – –	557 – –
11	Mehta and Jemadars, &c., for the intercalary month	– – –	47 12 –	—
12	Household expenses for the intercalary month	– – –	862 10 –	—
13	For grass, &c., for the intercalary month	– – –	502 10 –	352 9 –
14	Interest – – ditto – ditto	– – –	250 – –	—
15	Kharbarees – – ditto – ditto	– – –	288 – –	—
16	Opium – – ditto – ditto	– – –	160 – –	—
17	Village expenses – ditto – ditto	– – –	1,010 – –	—
18	Interest for delay in payment of 2,000 rupees	– – –	– – –	500 – –
	Rupees	7,564 – 6	14,000 10 6	4,594 4 –

* For the intercalary month.

5. Mr. Malet states, that Nos. 6 and 8 of the above items are of such a nature as the Durbar may be able easily to explain. These may therefore be admitted, provided the explanation, when obtained, be considered by Mr. Malet satisfactory.

6. Mr. Malet is of opinion that items Nos. 1 to 5 and No. 7 for the year 1842–43 (amounting in the aggregate to *Rs.* 3,221. 1. 9.), are of such a nature as should either be entirely or in part disallowed. The Durbar should therefore be called upon for an explanation in regard to each of these items, and such of them as are not satisfactorily explained, should be expunged from the accounts.

7. In regard to the inadmissable items of expenditure for the year 1843–44, Mr. Malet states, that he is of opinion that the Durbar will find it difficult to assign a satisfactory reason for item No. 5, amounting to a sum of 1,000 rupees paid on account of interest. Mr. Malet further observes, that item No. 9, being a charge of 2,000 rupees for subsistence to Durbar servants should not have been incurred, and that there would have been no necessity for the extra sums paid for the intercalary month (amounting to *Rs.* 4,954. 2.), if the payments had been fixed for the year, as should have been the case. These items should therefore be declared inadmissible, unless satisfactorily explained by the Regent Baee.

8. With reference to the objectionable items in 1844–45, Mr. Malet observes, that the one numbered 9 in the above statement is similar to that of the preceding year, namely, 2,000 rupees for subsistence to Durbar servants; and that items Nos. 6, 8, 10, and 18 can probably be explained without difficulty. In this event a balance of 2,352 rupees under the head of objectionable items would remain for the year 1844–45, which Mr. Malet is of opinion should, according to the strict letter, be disallowed. Altogether, however, Mr. Malet is of opinion, that the Regent Baee has conducted the management of this estate for this year "comparatively well," more especially as there appears in cash, receipts, ornaments and grain, an actual surplus of *Rs.* 6,745. 3. 3. (at the end of 1844–45), while the expenditure of this year, inclusive of the cost of these articles, only exceeded the receipts by *Rs.* 75. 5. 9.

9. Mr. Malet should be directed to inform the Regent Bhaee that Government disapproves of her exceeding the scale of expenditure which has been fixed for this estate; and that in future, notwithstanding any explanation she

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

may afford, all charges in excess will be expunged from the accounts, unless she previously applies for, and obtains sanction from, the Political Agent for their being incurred.

10. I regret to perceive that the disagreements in the family of the Wudwan chief still remain unadjusted. I am also sorry to observe from this report, that the vicious habits of the young Thakoor continue unabated. Mr. Malet states, that his age has now placed him beyond control from any members of his own family, and that he sees reason for adhering to the opinion which he expressed in the extract from his letter to Government, dated the 16th December 1844, quoted in the margin.* Mr. Malet further states, that he "does not see any method by which, without personal restraint," the Thakoor's habits can be ameliorated. It is evident, therefore, that the repeated warnings which have been given to the Regent Bhaee, with reference to the injurious line of conduct she has uniformly pursued towards the young Thakoor of Wudwan, have had no good effect. Before, however, we adopt any measures of the nature contemplated by Mr. Malet, he should perhaps be requested to state whether he is of opinion there is any probability of reclaiming the Thakoor from his irregular habits by adopting the measures proposed by Government as far back as December 1841 ; namely, to make an arrangement by which the chief would be induced to come in and live at Rajcote for a time, and thus have the opportunity of being in constant intercouse with the Political Agent.

* *See* below.

11. The subject alluded to in the 11th and 12th paragraphs of Mr. Malet's present letter, regarding the infant Koonwur of Wudwan, will be separately disposed of with reference to a separate report we have received from Mr. Malet on this subject.

12. Mr. Malet reports that, during 1844–45, the kharbaree of this estate, Sha Dhya Peetambar, has been dismissed; and that as no other person of repute has been entertained in that office, he has been obliged to sequestrate the district, the revenue of which for the current year is estimated to amount to about 51,000 rupees, for which security has been given by the Regent Bhaee, and the sequestration has therefore been removed. Mr. Malet should be directed to report the cause of this individual having been dismissed from this appointment.

13. The employment of the carkoon, Nuthojee Megjee, in the room of Babajee Krishna, who was dismissed by order of Government for being totally unworthy of any longer holding the situation of mehta at Wudwan on the part of Government, may be approved, as Mr. Malet states that the former individual has creditably discharged his duties during 10 years' service in various sequestrations.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
P. M'Mahon.
J. H. Crawford.
L. R. Reid.

25 March 1846.

No. 1236 of 1846.—Political Department.

No. 2469.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent, Kattewar.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 42, dated the 15th January last, submitting statements of the receipts and disbursements of the Wudwan estate for the years 1842–43, 1843–44, and 1844–45, under the administration of the Regent Bhaee Bhajeeraj, exhibiting in abstract the following results:

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* "The warning directed in Mr. Chief Secretary Reid's letter, No. 1348, 13th June 1843, was duly conveyed to the Bhaee Bhaeeraj, and I do not fear any practice on her part against the Chief's life. But his habits cannot be now controlled, even by her; and it appears to me that in any measure Government may think fit to direct towards Wudwan, the confirmed imbecility of the Thakoor may be assumed."

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

		1842–43.			1843–44.			1844–45.		
		Rs.	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*	*Rs.*	*a.*	*p.*
Receipts		1,28,089	3	–	1,21,751	9	6	1,10,310	4	–
Disbursements		1,28,954	9	–	1,25,951	9	6	1,10,385	9	9
Excess of expenditure over receipts	*Rs.*	865	4	–	4,200	–	–	75	5	9

2. It is presumed that the decrease in the revenues of this estate during the two latter years is more apparent than real, resulting principally from the omission of entries under the following heads:

1st. Revenues from the village of Velawuddur given as subsistence to Deda Bawajee.

2d. Revenues of two villages belonging to Bhaee Bhaeeraj.

3d. Marriage tax from the inhabitants.

In regard to the second of these, however, information is especially required by Government, since you state that in the arrangement you formerly made for the future management of the estate, it was specially provided that the revenues from the two Jenare villages belonging to the Regent Bhaee should annually be credited to the Wudwan estate. I am likewise desired to call your attention to the two other omissions, and to request, in reference to the third item, that you will state whether that was a cess levied in 1842–43, on the occasion of the young chief's marriage, or whether it is a tax levied on marriages contracted by the inhabitants of Wudwan generally.

3. It is satisfactory to observe, that the instalment of 14,175 rupees per annum for the liquidation of the debt due to the firm of Premabhee Hemchund, and the tribute and other dues of the British Government, have been regularly paid during the years reported on, as well as the balance, *Rs.* 9,048. 9. 6., of the debt due to Premachund Wuckulchund, and that grain to the value of *Rs.* 4,261. 8. 9. has been stored at the end of 1843–44.

4. With reference to the lists of objectionable disbursements which accompanied your report, I am desired to inform you, that the charge for travelling expenses, and value of articles purchased for the Durbar, during each of the years under review, aggregating *Rs.* 11,574. 2. 3., may be admitted, provided the explanation in reference to them which the Durbar may submit shall in your opinion be satisfactory.

5. You will be pleased to call for explanation in regard to the following charges:

Durbar expenses, 1842–43, *Rs.* 346. 2. 3.
Interest and exchange, 1842–43, *Rs.* 719. - 1843–44, *Rs.* 1,000.
Extra sedbundy expenses, 1842–43, *Rs.* 1,707. 14. - 1843–44, *Rs.* 1,250.

and to expunge from the accounts such of them as are not satisfactorily explained.

6. In the 6th para. of your letter under reply you observe, that of the inadmissible expenditure for 1843–44, it would be difficult for the Durbar to assign a reason for the sum of 1,000 rupees paid on account of interest. That the charge of 2,000 rupees for subsistence to Durbar servants should not have been incurred, and that there would have been no necessity for the extra sums paid for the intercalary month (amounting to *Rs.* 4,954. 2.) had the payments been fixed for the year as they ought to have been. These items should therefore be declared inadmissible, unless satisfactorily explained by the Regent Bhaee.

7. With reference to the objectionable items in 1844–45, you notice an entry of 2,000 rupees, similar to that in the year preceding, for subsistence to Durbar servants; and observe that the entries of 557 rupees and 121 rupees for purchases for the Durbar; *Rs.* 1,063. 11. for travelling expenses; and 500 rupees for interest on account of delay in payment of 2,000 rupees, could probably be

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

explained without difficulty; and that in this event a balance of 2,352 rupees, under the head of objectionable expenditure, would remain for 1844–45, which, according to the strict letter, should be disallowed. Altogether, however, you express yourself as of opinion that the Regent Bhaee has conducted the management of this estate for the above year comparatively well, more especially as there appears in cash, receipts, ornaments, and grain an actual surplus of *Rs.* 6,745. 3. 3., which the expenditure of the year, inclusive of the cost of these articles, exceeded the receipts only by *Rs.* 75. 5. 9.

8. I am nevertheless desired to request that you will intimate to the Regent Bhaee that Government disapproves of her exceeding the scale of expenditure which has been fixed for the estate under her management; and that in future, notwithstanding any explanation she may afford, all charges in excess will be expunged from the accounts, unless she previously applies for and obtains your sanction for their being incurred.

9. The Governor in Council regrets to perceive that the disagreement in the family of the Wudwan Chief still remains unadjusted, and is also sorry to observe from your report that the vicious habits of the young Thakoor continue unabated. It is further evident from the observations contained in your 9th para. that the repeated warnings which have been given to the Regent Bhaee as to the injurious line of conduct she has uniformly pursued towards the young Thakoor of Wudwan have failed of any good effect. Before, however, Government adopt any measures of the nature contemplated by you, I am desired to request that you will be so good as to state whether, in your opinion, there is any probability of reclaiming the Thakoor from his irregular habits, by adopting the measures proposed in my letter, No. 3442, of the 18th December 1841; viz., of making an arrangement by which the chief would be induced to come in and live at Rajkote for a time, and which would afford him an opportunity of being in constant intercourse with the political agent.

10. With reference to the 11th and 12th paras. of your letter regarding the infant Koonwur of Wudwan, the instructions of Government will be communicated to you on the separate report you have submitted on the subject.

11. In the 12th para. of your letter you intimate that the kharbaree of the Wudwan estate, Sha Dhya Peetumbar, had been dismissed; and that the Regent Bhaee, having given security for the revenues of the current year, estimated at about 57,000 rupees, the sequestration had been removed. You will be pleased to report, for the information of Government, the cause of this individual's dismissal from the appointment.

12. In conclusion, I am desired to inform you, that for the reasons stated in your 3d para., the Honourable the Governor in Council approves of the employment of the karkoon Mathojee Megjee in the room of Babajee Kristna, dismissed for being unworthy of holding the situation of mahta at Wudwan on the part of Government.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 1 April 1846.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 28 April 1846.

Government, No. 81 of 1846.—General, No. 218 of 1846.

Political Department.

No. 3331. From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 1236, April 1st, in reply to my report on Wudwan, No. 42, January 15th.

2. The decrease in the revenue of 1843–44 below that of 1842–43 amounts to 6,337 *l.* 9 *s.* 6 *d.*, but this is in consequence of no receipts being entered in the latter year on account of Bhaeeraj's two villages, or re-credit of fine, or of marriage

marriage presents, which last are in Wudwan only a temporary source of revenue on occasions of marriage. The full revenue of Velawudur in the second year is entered in the general revenue of the purgunnah. It will be perceived from this that the actual regular revenue is considerably more in 1843-44 than in the preceding year, but from this must be deducted that portion of the prices of the grain which was used by the durbar, which was not entered in the first year, and which is not separated in the accounts.

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

3. The decrease of the revenue in 1844-45 below that of 1843-44 amounts to *Rs.* 11,441. 5. 6., which is caused by a general decrease in the revenue in consequence of the cheapness of grain, and a diminution in presents and fines, amounting to about 17,000 rupees; while the falling in of the lease of Nagnes gives an extra revenue, which reduces the decrease to the amount noticed above.

4. The revenues in the Bhaee's two villages are not entered in the two last years, but they are now under sequestration.

5. The communication directed in your eighth paragraph has been made to the Regent.

6. With reference to that portion of the ninth paragraph of your letter which refers to the condition of the young chief, I do not, as mentioned in the ninth paragraph of my report, perceive any hopes of amelioration, even through the means pointed out by Government. I do not, however, consider that of late years any active part has been taken by the Bhaee to increase his bad habits; but, from the course pursued in his early youth, or it may be naturally that he is now of weak intellect.

7. I believe that Sha Dya Peetamber was dismissed by the Bhye in consequence of her suspecting him of being engaged in endeavouring to procure other guardianship than her's for the young koonwur; but this was denied by her, and some ill-conduct of his in the Durbar not particularised was assigned as the reason of his dismissal.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Agent.

Katteewur Political Agency,
Rajkote, 11 August 1846.

No. 3332.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Reid.*

THIS report does not furnish sufficiently explicit replies to the points on which Government called for further information in its letter of the 1st instant. The reply seems defective in the following respects:—

1st. No reason is assigned for the revenues of the Bhaee's two villages not having been brought to account; information on this point should be called for.

2d. Information should be given in regard to the date on which these villages were placed under sequestration by the Political Agent.

3d. In the Government letter of the 1st instant the Political Agent was directed to report whether "the marriage tax from the inhabitants" of Wudwan entered in the accounts of this estate for the year 1842-43 is a tax levied on marriages contracted by the inhabitants of Wudwan generally, or whether it was levied on the above occasion in consequence of the young chief's marriage. In reply to these questions, the Political Agent merely states that marriage presents are in Wudwan only a "temporary source of revenue on occasions of marriages." This is not a distinct reply to the Government reference, and further information should therefore be called for.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
L. R. Reid.

21 April 1846.

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

No. 3333.

No. 1675 of 1846.—Political Department.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 11th instant, No. 81, relative to the affairs of Wudwan, and to inform you that your communication does not furnish sufficiently explicit replies to the points on which information was called for in my letter dated the 1st instant, No. 1236.

2. I am therefore desired to request that you will be pleased to state the reason why the revenues of the two villages belonging to the Bhaee Bhaeeraj were not brought to account in the year 1843-44, and the date on which these villages were placed under sequestration by you.

3. I am also desired to request that you will be pleased to supply some further information in regard to "the marriage tax" levied on the inhabitants of Wudwun, as called for in the second paragraph of my communication above alluded to; namely, whether "the marriage tax from the inhabitants" of Wudwun entered in the accounts of this estate for the year 1842-43 is a tax levied on marriages contracted by the inhabitants of Wudwun generally, or whether it was levied in consequence of the young chief's marriage.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 25 April 1846.

No. 3095.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 22 April 1846.

Government, No. 21 of 1846.—General, No. 43.—Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

WITH reference to the first paragraphs of your letter, No. 780, 11th February 1845, in reply to mine, No. 146, 16th December 1844, I have the honour to inform you that most of the persons named in the Wudwun chopras are dead, or have been discharged; the others are noted below:—

Chothum Lal, late native agent in Katteewar, pensioner; Mahdooraee Goolabraee, not at present in employ; Jetoojee Wursunjee, employed as mehta with the Durbar at Choora; Munsharam, late Soobhansing, jemadar of police (horse); jemadar of peons on the Agency Establishment, now employed by order of the Political Agent in Wudwan to prevent violence in the Durbar; Roodurjee Nundeeram, zubteedar of Kuntareea.

2. Having called on these persons for explanation, I received replies, the tenor of which is enclosed, Nos. 1 to 6, on which the Wudwan Durbar gives the explanation, No. 7.

3. With reference to Muncharam's receipts, however objectionable it may be in theory that his son should have employment under the Durbar at which he was stationed, it can hardly be much a subject of grave accusation against him; and the Durbar's assertion of the correctness of his explanations must pass current.

4. Jamadar Soobhan Sing's explanation is satisfactory.

5. Jetoojee Wusunjee's explanation is not so satisfactory as it should be; but it appears true, and the latter part of it is evidently so.

6. Chotumlal's denial is borne out by the statement of the Durbar.

7. Roodurjee Numdeeram's denial may be true; there are, however, at present some other heavy accusations against him, the witnesses to which have been

been called for; should no suspicion rest on him after the inquiry, his present statement may, I think, be believed.

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

8. Mahdooraee Goolabraee's denial of any receipt, or having had anything to do with Wudwan, may, coupled with the Durbar's reply, be admitted as correct.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency,
Rajkote, 15 January 1846.

First Enclosure to Government Letter No. 21, dated 15 January 1846.

Statements of Parties.—23 March 1845.

(No. 1.)

1st. *Jemadar Munsharam*, on the 23d March 1845, states that, with reference to the 60 rupees, he had sent for his family to Rajkote, who had come to Wudwan, when his wife paid her respects to the Bhaee and presented 10 rupees, and the Bhaee gave her three cloths, but I do not know the price. 1896.

30 Rs.—My son was entertained as a servant to stay with Rasingjee, and the Thakoor gave him of his own pleasure 30 rupees. I did not take any part of it. 1896.

50 Rs.—The Durbar ladies, and all those of the town, came to my house on Anud Chowdus to worship, when perhaps 400 or 500 Brahmins come for food; and money was given to them in charity by the Bhaee's own hands. I know nothing of the amount. 1897.

40 Rs.—I had a fine sword; and Rajsingjee, hearing of it, sent for it and kept it, and gave me its price. I did not get the money as a present. 1897.

200 Rs.—My son was in the service of Jhala Rajsingjee, and he (as such) may have assisted him, and Hureehunkur will know concerning this; I do not, for I did not take it. I am an old servant of the Government, and could not so err. My son was in his service, and was under his orders, not under mine.

(No. 2.)

Jemadar Soobhan Sing.—4 March 1845.

1845.—In 1897 I went to settle the bounds of Moonjpoor and Saeela, when a person of the Dekkan came with me who was going thither, but was in distress for money for his expenses. He had two horses, so he sold one to Jhala Rajsingjee for *Rs.* 95. 8., and on a security being required from him, I became so, and the price was fixed at ready cash 80 rupees and *Rs.* 15. 8. in cloth; altogether was paid *Rs.* 95. 8., and the horse transferred. If the Durbar on this account entered it in my name, they know the circumstances were as I have stated for your information.

(No. 3.)

115 Rs. and 50 Rs.—*Jetoojee Wusunjee* states, that he was on attachment duty from 1902, at 1896, at Loodamra, when his accounts were with Sha Bechur Radha Karbaree, of that place, who had a claim on him at the conclusion for 100 rupees, as in consequence of the scarcity his expenses were greater than his pay; that the claim being urgently pressed on his leaving Loodamra, he obtained the money from Thakursee Dya (the son of the Wudwan minister), on the security of his pay from his new appointment of attachment mehta of the disputed land between Moonjpoor and Saeela, 115 rupees being entered to cover the interest, at 12 annas per cent. per mensem; that it was regularly paid from his salary, and the extra 15 rupees for interest were remitted.

The 50 rupees were won in a bet that he would eat 50 plantains, one seer of sugar, and one seer of ghee; and the Bhaee assigned him payment from a banker; but he refused to take it, and had never received it, and that the reason for its being entered as expenditure could not be known to him.

(No. 4.)

600 Rs. and 1 Bullock—*Chotumlal Bapabhye* denies any knowledge of either transaction, or of any reason for these being entered in the Wudwan accounts.

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

(No. 5.)

100 Rs./100 Rs., and 200 Rs.—*Roodurjee Nundeeram* denies all knowledge of the transactions, or why they have been entered in the accounts.

(No. 6.)

200 Rs.—*Mahdooraee Goolabraee* denies any knowledge of the matter; and states that, while over the sequestration of the kattees' share of Wusutree, he had nothing to do with Wudwan.

Second Enclosure to Government Letter No. 21, dated 15 January 1846.

(No. 7.)

YAD from Wudwan.

1. *Jemadar Munsharam Ooderam.*—This explanation which he has made is correct.

2. *Jemadar Soobhansing Rullunsing.*—The explanation given by him is correct.

3. *Jetoojee Wusunjee.*—The Durbar does not know whether he received the money from the Durbar. The explanation of the bet on eating the plantains is correct. As to the item of 115, it is as he has explained.

4. *Chotumlal Bapabhye.*—After your visit, we inquired of Sha Dya, and intended sending a trustworthy man to Ahmedabad to inquire; but the Dya said it had not been taken, but had been credited by the bankers without name (in the name of Sha), but that he had forgotten to mention it before. On hearing this, we were not satisfied; but told him that we should take it from him with interest, as he and the Shet would have appropriated the money, throwing suspicion on respectable men's character. After some time, he replied, and 600 rupees and the interest, altogether 900 rupees, are given credit now by the Shet in the settlement for Nagnes, and are entered in the accounts for 1900 sent to the Sirkar. Thus it appears that a false entry had been made in the Durbar chopras; and, considering this, Chotumlal's explanation is above suspicion.

5. *Mehta Roodurjee Nundeeram.*—Sha Dya wrote the entries in the chopras, and he having falsely entered that for Chotumlal, how can it be said that this against Roodurjee is true? But Dya took credit for it, and whether or not, if he gave he will know.

6. *Mehta Mahdooraee Goolabraee.*—On inquiry, it does not appear that this can be proved against him.

Thus are the explanations as we have above written. Our delay in reply has arisen from it being necessary to obtain Dya's agreement, and the inquiries for which we have sent our people to you six or seven months have now passed, therefore we have now sent a reply with particulars.

1902 Magshur Wud 3d.
(16 December 1845.)

(True translation.)
(signed) *A. Malet,* Political Agent.

No. 3096. MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

I DO not think these explanations are altogether satisfactory, but I am not aware that we can do anything more except in the case of the Jemadar Munsharam. If while in the service of Government, and stationed at Wudwun, the jemadar's son is allowed to enter the service of the Wudwun Durbar, and to receive presents, a door is opened for the greatest abuse. The jemadar must take his choice; either he or his son must, I fear, be obliged to resign their present employment.

But on this point I shall be glad to be favoured with the opinion of my colleagues, as such a decision may appear a hardship.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
24 March 1841. *T. M'Mahon.*

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Crawford.*

No. 3097.

I AM not aware of the justice or expediency of the principle that, if the father is in the service of Government, his son shall not enter the service of a native State in connexion with it, and receive all the advantages usually attached to such employment. If presents are recognised benefits in the latter service, I do not see any reason why the son should not receive them; if they are not so recognised, or are objectionable in other respects, they should be discontinued, but I do not think our interference should go further than this.

(signed) *J. H. Crawford.*

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Reid.* No. 3098.

THERE is no moral wrong in the son being in the service of Wudwan, and receiving presents and emoluments as the other servants of the state, while the father is stationed at that Durbar on the part of Government; but the father is placed to control, in some degree, and to watch the proceedings of the native state, and the question for us to decide is whether we think he can well fulfil that duty while the son is so employed. I think not, since I should have but little confidence in a man whose interest might in this state of things be so readily opposed to his duty. If, therefore, the son remains in the service of Wudwan, I think the duty attending that Durbar on the part of Government should be entrusted to some other person than the father, who might, if occasion offered, be elsewhere employed.

25 March. (signed) *L. R. Reid.*

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and the Honourable Mr. *Reid.* No. 3099.

THE circumstances noticed by Mr. Reid were in my mind when I recorded my Minute on this subject.

The jemadar is placed at Wudwan for a certain purpose; his son may be employed and may receive presents from Wudwan, but this renders the father incompetent for the duty given to him, and there is nothing to prevent his being bribed and corrupted indirectly through his son. I do not mean to say that this will occur, but any one acquainted with native states will infer that it is very likely to occur; and hence the option I have proposed should be given to the parties to relinquish either one or other of the employments.

(signed) *G. Arthur.*
T. M'Mahon.
L. R. Reid.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Crawford.* No. 3100.

THE opinion of the majority of the Board must be acted upon, but my opinion has not undergone any change.

(signed) *J. H. Crawford.*

No. 1565 of 1846.

From *J. P. Willoughby*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar. No. 3101.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 21, dated the 15th January last, submitting

Entries in Accounts of Persons having received Money from the Wudwun Durbar.

explanations from the parties enumerated in the margin,* in regard to the sums entered against their names in the Wudwan chopras, as presents given to them by that Durbar.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you that the Governor in Council does not consider these explanations to be altogether satisfactory, but he is not aware that Government can adopt any further measures except in the case of the Jumadar Muncharam.

* Chotumlal, Mahadhooraee Golabraee, Jetoojee Wursunjee, Soobajee Jumadar Muncharam, Roodurjee Nundeeram.

3. This individual, whose son it appears has taken employment in the service of the Wudwan Durbar, is stationed there on the part of the British Government, to control in some degree, and to watch the proceedings of that Durbar.

4. There is no moral wrong in the son being so employed, and in his receiving presents and emoluments as the other servants of the Wudwan state, while the father is stationed at that Durbar on the part of the British Government. The Governor in Council is nevertheless of opinion that, under the circumstances, the father cannot well fulfil the duty with which he is entrusted, since but little confidence can be placed in a person whose interest might, in this state of things, be so readily opposed to his duty.

5. If, therefore, the son is desirous of remaining in the service of the Wudwan state, the duty of attending that Durbar on the part of the British Government should be entrusted to some other person; but, on the other hand, should the father prefer continuing in his present employment, the son must resign his situation under the Wudwan Durbar.

6. The Governor in Council requests that you will be pleased to give the option mentioned in the preceding para. to Muncharam and his son.

I have, &c.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby,*
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 22 April 1846.

(True extract.)

(signed) A. Malet, Secretary to Government.

Dismissal of Roodurjee Nundaram.

Dismissal of Roodurjee Nundaram, a Mehta on the Kattywar Political Agency Establishment, for Bribery.

Extract Political Letter from Bombay, dated 31 October (No. 115) 1849.

Para. 3. A charge of bribery, particulars of which are given in Collection No. 3, having been proved against Roodurjee Nundaram, an attachment mehta on the establishment of the Political Agent in Kattywar, and the conduct of that individual being open to suspicion in other respects, we have authorised his dismissal, and have prohibited his re-employment.

Extract Political Letter to Bombay, dated 13 February (No. 3), 1850.

Kattywar.

Para. 5. We regret to observe that another native officer employed under the Agency, Roodurjee Mehta, has been convicted of bribery, and interdicted from future employment.

No. 9036.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 8 November 1848.

Persian Department.

Substance of a Petition from *Vakeel Mehta Doorgadass Dayaram*, of Talooka Wurwhan, to the Honourable the Governor in Council, dated 12th, and received 22d March 1848.

The geerasia of Monje Lutoora, talooka Wurwhand, having stated that he gave through me a bribe of 60 rupees to Goolabroy, I was sent for and examined. Out of regard for the talookdar, and for fear of Goolabroy, I falsely stated at first

Dismissal of Roodurjee Nundaram.

first that I had received the money. I intended to state the truth when called upon to make a deposition on oath; I was, however, not sworn, and after a reference to Government, the Political Agent in Kattiawar sent for me, and told me that I would not be allowed to go to the Agency. On this, I told Captain Lang that the money was given to Goolabroy, and that I was ready to prove the truth of my statement. There were other items of bribe in my accounts, and when I was questioned regarding them, and was promised protection, I furnished the requisite information. Of the opium which was seized through the assistance of Desaee Kurrishunkur, of talooka Wussawar, a part only was sent to Government, and the remainder was embezzled by Mehta Roodurjee Nundiram; he also received some bribes. I brought these circumstances to notice, and proved the truth of my statement by documentary and oral evidence. This matter should be tried in a court, and the party concerned in it should be suspended from office, and required to furnish a security for appearance. No notice was taken of the case, and the party has been allowed to resume his office. Although I have faithfully served Government, I have been ruined. Although the above charge of bribery and several others have been proved against Goolabroy, and although I am ready to prove some more against him, he has been continued in the service of Government. I do not know why I should not be allowed to go to the Agency, I therefore request your Honour in Council to permit me to resume my work. I applied to Captain Lang on the subject, but have received no reply; I therefore beg that he may be directed to allow me to resume my work, and to inquire into my complaints.

(signed) *C. J. Erskine*,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

Government, No. 127 of 1848.—General, No. 662.

Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Kattewar to *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay. No. 9037.

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, calling for my report on the petition of Wukeel Mehta Doorgadass Duyaram, forwarded with your order of the 20th April last, I have the honour to refer you to my letter of the 8th September 1847, and its several accompaniments; and beg to state, that as I suspected the evidence given by the petitioner at the time, I was not satisfied of the truth of it as far as it implicated himself in the appropriation of one-half of the money received from the Latoora Grassias in the name of Goolabraee Umbasunkur, till he produced the books of the sowcar with whom he dealt at Rajcote, and showed me that a similar sum had been credited to him about the time the bribe was paid, although the purpose for which it had been received was not stated. It is impossible, I think, now to get over this and the other evidence against this wukeel; and the assertion in his present petition that he would have told a different story had he been examined on oath, only shows how utterly untrustworthy he must be. The charges against the attachment mehta Rooderjee, alluded to by the petitioner, have been carefully investigated; but I expect to be able to throw some further light on the most important of them when I visit Wasawur, where the mehta in question was employed, and which I purpose doing on my way to Bhaonuggur to settle a number of boundary disputes in that part of the country. The result shall be reported hereafter for the information of Government. The petition of Doorgadass Dayaram is returned herewith.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Lang*,
Political Agent.

Kattewar Pol. Agency, Camp Teembree,
16 September 1848.

Dismissal of Roodurjee Nundaram.

No. 9038.

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Honourable the Board.

THE petitioner should be referred to the Political Agent, Katteewar, who will inform him that Government sees no reason to interfere in his favour; Major Lang's further reports, promised in the latter part of his letter, may be awaited.

(signed) *Falkland.*
W. Cotton.
L. R. Reid.
J. P. Willoughby.

24 October 1848.

No. 4556 of 1848.—Political Department.

No. 9039.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

WITH reference to your report, dated the 16th ultimo, No. 662, on a petition from Mehta Doorgadass Duyaram, dated the 12th March last, I am directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to request you to inform the petitioner, who has been referred to you, that Government sees no reason to interfere on his behalf.

2. I am at the same time desired to state, that his Lordship in Council awaits the further report promised in the latter part of your letter.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 31 October 1848.

No. 4557 of 1848.

No. 9040.

RESOLUTION of Government in the Political Department.

WITH reference to the translation of a petition from Mehta Doorgadass Duyaram, dated the 12th March last, ordered, that the petitioner be referred through the Persian Department, to the Political Agent in Katteewar, for a reply.

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 31 October 1848.

No. 5191.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 27 June 1849.

No. 2654 of 1849.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to draw your attention to the 2d para. of my letter, dated the 31st October last, No. 4556, and to request that you will submit as early as practicable, the report promised in your communication of the 16th September preceding, No. 127, regarding the charges of corruption preferred by Mehta Doorgadass Duyaram against Mehta Roodarjee Nundeeram.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 18 June 1849.

Dismissal of Roodurjee Nundaram.

No. 8649.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 18 October 1849.

Government, No. 136 of 1849.—General, No. 701.—Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary Government, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 18th June last, requiring my report on the charges preferred by Mehta Doorgadass Duyaram against Mehta Roodejee Nundeeram, I have the honour to forward copies of my second assistant Mr. Barr's letters, giving the result of his investigation of the whole of these charges, from which you will observe, that that officer considered one of the accusations of bribery fully established against him, and several of the others exceedingly suspicious. Mehta Rooderjee Nundeeram has not therefore been reinstated from the suspension in which he was placed, when these charges were brought forward, and I consider that he ought not to be employed again under this Agency. The depositions are very voluminous, and I have not therefore sent translations of them, as they will not, I imagine, be required.

2. I was desirous of obtaining some further information regarding the accusation reported on in Mr. Barr's second letter, of Rooderjee's having made a false report of the limits within which a robbery was committed, when he was on attachment duty at Wusawur; but although my assistant, Mr. Black, endeavoured when we were on the spot to settle the point, he was unable satisfactorily to do so, on account of the absence of some of the parties, and I doubt whether the boundary has ever been sufficiently defined to admit of a positive decision on the subject. This case, however, was the one in which Rooderjee was convicted by Mr. Barr of taking the bribe, and even if no further evidence is forthcoming, I consider this sufficient ground for making the Brahmin who suffered, refund to the Noanugger authorities the amount levied from them in excess of that claimed in the first petition from the Wusawur Desaee.

I have, &c.

Katteewar Pol. Agency, Rajcote, 15 September 1849.

(signed) *W. Lang*,
Political Agent.

Forwarded to Mr. Chief Secretary *Malet* with Letter No. 701, Consultation No. 136, dated 15 September 1849.

To the Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

The accompanying depositions and proceedings have reference to several charges brought by one Doorgadass against an attachment mehta under this Agency.

2. The witnesses in the case have, with few exceptions, been examined by Mr. Black, but, agreeably to the instructions you lately favoured me with, I have made some further investigation into it, and now propose to acquaint you with the result.

3. The charges are not distinctly set forth in any of the accompanying papers, but are to be collected from a mass of evidence, and therefore, for facility of reference, I shall specify them separately, and endeavour briefly to consider the evidence bearing upon each. The charges (which I shall letter) are as follows:

A. That Roodurjee surreptitiously kept back a large quantity of smuggled opium, which had been seized through his instrumentality at Wusawur in the year 1841.

B. That in the same year he extorted 35 rupees from a person named Mohamed Hajee, a resident of Wusawur, by threatening him with an accusation to Government of having had dealings in smuggled opium.

C. That in the year 1845, when a quantity of confiscated opium was sold, he received a bribe of 135 rupees from Huree Shunkur, of Wusawur, within whose limits it had been seized, under the pretence of having secured to him singly the whole of the Government reward, and prevented its division amongst all the shareholders of Wusawur.

D. That he received 50 koories from Hurreeshunker in the year 1841 as a bribe for not pushing inquiries he had been directed to make into a complaint laid against Hureeshunkur for having had criminal intercourse with the wife of a Mehman, of Wusawur.

E. That Hureeshunkur gave him 100 rupees in the year 1845 to screen himself from the displeasure of Government, with which Roodurjee had threatened him when a case of traga was under investigation.

Dismissal of Roodurjee Nundaram.

F. That in the year 1846 he took 100 rupees from the amount of compensation awarded to a Brahmin for a robbery, under the plea that he had expedited the award.

G. That Govindjee, a shareholder of Wusawur, gave him bribes of different sums, amounting in the aggregate to 110 rupees and 13 ½ koories; and that Roodurjee received an underground store of grain in lieu of this money.

H. That Gowreeshunkur, of Wusawur, paid him 50 rupees to secure his good offices in some inquiries which were going on regarding a piece of land said to be common property, on which Gowreeshunkur wished to build a house for his private accommodation.

4. A. There appears to me to be strong grounds for believing that the whole of the opium seized was not brought to Rajkote, and that Roodurjee may have appropriated much of it, but so long a period has elapsed since the transaction took place, that proof positive would be almost impossible of attainment, and as the ends of justice do not loudly demand great efforts to obtain it, I consider that it is advisable to give Roodurjee the benefit of the doubt in this instance, for the difficulty already experienced in procuring information tending to the detection of the very prevalent illicit trade in opium is sufficiently great, but would be much increased were an impression to get abroad that no lapse of years would present an impediment to scrutiny into the conduct of informers or screen them from malice of enemies or faithlesness of accomplices.

5. B. There is no evidence, in my opinion, to show that the 35 rupees got further than to the hands of Hureeshunkur.

6. C. Twenty-five rupees of the amount are said to have been paid from the shop of Mehman Shukoor, but there is no proof of this. The remaining 110 rupees Roodurjee acknowledges to have received, but declares that they were not paid as a bribe, but as part of some money transactions then existing between him and Hureishunkur. The two witnesses said to have been privy to the bribe do not testify to it. This instance I conceive has not been proved.

7. D. The amount is entered in Shakoor Ibriahim's chopra, but the reason for payment, namely, "to give as a bribe to Roodurjee," is evidently an addition to the original entry. Indeed the gomasta, on being questioned, admitted the fact, and attempted to excuse it. I would therefore exonerate Roodurjee from this charge.

8. E. Hureeshunkur states, that the 100 rupees were paid to Roodurjee through Doorgadass Sewukram, the servant of Anuntjee Kuchee, from whom 127 rupees had been borrowed. Doogadass Sewakram at first denies all knowledge of the payment; but when an account in his own handwriting is produced, he acknowledges the correctness of an entry showing that 103 rupees had been paid to Roodurjee on account of Hureeshunkur. He declares his ignorance, however, as to whether the money was paid as a bribe, or in part of "lenden," which had long existed between Roodurjee and Hureeshunkur. That money transactions were carried on by Roodurjee with different shareholders of Wusawur, is not denied; and, in the present instance, it appears that Roodurjee lent Hureeshunkur 100 rupees, to enable him to pay his tribute. It is of course most difficult to distinguish what sum came under the denomination of bribes, and what under the head of debtor or creditor in these transactions; but when it is considered that the "lenden" was against all orders, and secretly carried on by a Government servant, the impression is strong upon my mind that Roodurjee did not refuse gifts, which were but too readily offered, and could so easily be cloaked.

9. F. The evidence, in my opinion, clearly criminates Roodurjee, so far as 75 of the 100 rupees are concerned, and I see no cause sufficient to make me doubt the testimony of the Brahmin regarding the remaining 25 rupees.

10. G. This instance is so much involved in matters connected with money transactions between Roodurjee and the shareholders, that I cannot positively assert that a bribe was given, although I strongly suspect that the whole of the grain was not paid for.

11. H. Twenty-five rupees are said to have been paid on the guarantee of Govindjee, who has included that amount in the charge lettered G. The remaining 25 rupees are said to have been given on the guarantee of Govindjee's mother. The repayment of the whole 50 rupees by Gowree Shunkur, in proportions of 25 each, to Govindjee and his mother, is stated, but not clearly proved, in my opinion, as the witnesses are not disinterested ones.

12. There are three writings amongst the papers connected with the proceedings of this case, said to be in Roodurjee's own handwriting. Roodurjee admits that the one, on Hurreeshunkur, directing him to send in 154. 8. by a horseman, if 100 had not already been paid to a Sonee, named Gela, is in his own hand, but declares that the two others are forged, although the similitude is so great that all except himself would be deceived by them.

13. The first of these writings proves, I think, that Roodurjee was very much to blame, not only for having money transactions, but also for the manner in which they were carried on. A horseman is sent to enforce payment, and a second threatened in case of delay. This, however, could scarcely be a case of bribery; for Roodurjee would not have acted so openly

openly had it been so, or sent a written document which might have been brought in evidence against him at any moment, had his threats roused feelings of vengeance. Dismissal of Roodurjee Nundaram.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Assistant Political Agent.

Rajcote, 16 May 1848.

To the Political Agent.

THERE is a complaint of the Jam of Nowanuggur against Roodurjee, which you forwarded to me at the same time as I received the charges above alluded to. This complaint I have not yet had opportunity of investigating, but shall do myself the honour of reporting upon as soon as possible.

(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Assistant Political Agent.

To the Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I HAVE carefully examined all the accompanying papers relating to certain charges of the Jam of Nowanuggur, against an attachment mehta on the establishment of this Agency, and have the honour to make you acquainted with the result of my investigation.

The charges are two in number; 1st, that Roodurjee, when deputed to report upon the locality of a robbery, falsely represented it to be within the Nowanuggur territory, and 2dly, that through his instrumentality the amount of compensation levied from that state was greater to a very material extent than what the plundered person had himself stated as the value of his stolen property.

At the time when these occurrences took place, Roodurjee had charge of the attachment of Wusawut, a subject of which was the sufferer concerned, and it is alleged therefore, that motives of self-interest prompted him to make the report regarding the locality of the robbery, placing it within the bounds of Nowanugger, when in reality it was in the limits of Wusawur itself, and that the same causes operated in influencing him to cause the award of a compensation greater than the actual loss incurred.

In a former report, dated 16th May last, regarding numerous other charges brought by Doorgadass against this same mehta, I had occasion to remark on the evidence bearing upon one, accusing him with having received 100 rupees from the amount of compensation awarded to a Brahmin for a robbery, under the plea that he had expedited the award, and I gave it as my opinion that the charge was established.

I find that that robbery is the same as the one now under consideration, and suspicions were therefore excited in my mind against Roodurjee of having acted as ascribed to him; but on looking over the accompanying papers it appears that the first petition referring to the robbery, and all the subsequent replies and rejoinders, were received by your predecessor in the customary manner, and that each of them bears his signature under the different sheras, the last being a positive injunction to Nowanuggur to pay the amount of loss without further delay.

To a shera written in reply to accusations sent against Roodurjee in consequence of his report of the locality of the robbery, your predecessor's signature is also affixed, and likewise to the orders issued regarding the amount of damages, when a letter mentioning a smaller amount, said to have been written by one of the Desais of Wusawur, is produced by Nowanuggur.

The subject, doubtless, received minute attention when all these orders were issued, repeated, and enforced by the imposition of Mohsuls; therefore, I humbly represent that in my opinion it would be useless to reconsider the matter, and not necessary.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Assistant Pol[l] Agent.

Ragkote, 18 July 1848.

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby* and the Honourable Mr. *Blane.* No. 8650.

MAJOR LANG may be informed, that as one accusation of bribery was proved against Rooderjee Nundrain, and as several others, though not proved, were exceedingly suspicious, this person, as proposed by them, should not be employed in future.

The amount levied from Nowanuggur as compensation for a robbery in excess of that first claimed, should, as suggested by Major Lang, be refunded by the person who received it.

(signed) *Falkland.*
J. P. Willoughby.
D. A. Blane.

9 October 1849.

Dismissal of Roodurjee Nundaram.

No. 4389 of 1849.—Political Department.

No. 8651. From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent, Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, with enclosures No. 136, dated the 15th ultimo, relative to certain charges of bribery preferred by Doogadas Dugarain against an attachment mehta named Rooderjee Nundram.

In reply, I am desired to inform you, that as one of these charges has been proved, and as several others, though not proved, are exceedingly suspicious, his Lordship in Council approves of your intention not to employ Rooderjee in future.

3. The amount levied from Nownuggur, as compensation for a robbery, in excess of that first claimed, should as suggested by you, be refunded by the person who received it.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 16 October 1849.

(True extract.)
(signed) A. Malet, Chief Secretary.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

Charges of Bribery against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba, Head Accountant of the Kattywar Political Agency.

EXTRACT Political Letter from Bombay, dated 14 December (No. 111) 1850.

Kattywar:
Complaints against Political Agent's Native Establishment, Coll. No. 21, Pol. Cons. 1850, 22d May; Nos. 3924 to 3926; 4081 to 4083; 12th June, Nos. 4913 and 4914 A.

25. THE proceedings which form Collection No. 21, refer to complaints made by certain individuals against some of the members of the native establishment of the Political Agent at Rajkote. We have, for the reasons indicated in the proceedings, deemed interference to be unnecessary.

EXTRACT Political Letter from Bombay, dated 15 November (No. 114) 1852.

4. As connected with the 25th paragraph of our Political Despatch, dated 14 December, No. 111, of 1850, we beg to forward to your Honourable Court an extract from our proceedings on the subject of an investigation held by Captain J. T. Barr, Acting First Assistant to the Political Agent in Kattywar, of charges of bribery preferred against Rughonath Rao Raghoba, head accountant of that Agency, on a portion of which charges he was convicted by that officer. For reasons, however, mentioned in our proceedings, we considered that no conclusive proofs had been established of the guilt of the accused on any of the charges investigated by Captain Barr, and we accordingly annulled the conviction recorded by that officer.

EXTRACT Political Letter to Bombay, dated 30 March (No. 11) 1853.

9. CHARGES were preferred by one Bhutoor Veneeram against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba, head accountant of the Political Agent's Office, two of which (being charges of bribery) Captain Barr, who conducted the investigation, and Lieutenant-colonel Lang, who reviewed it, and took some additional evidence, considered to be proved. Your view of the case was entirely different. You informed.

informed Lieutenant-colonel Lang that "Government has seldom received a case so devoid of conclusive proof against the accused, or, in fact, so unsatisfactorily conducted, as the present one," and that there was, in your opinion, a conspiracy against the accused. You, however, empowered Lieutenant-colonel Lang to remove Rughoonath from employment if he had lost confidence in him; but Lieutenant-colonel Lang was unwilling to act on this permission in the case of a man whom Government regarded as innocent. Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

10. This result of the inquiry is most unsatisfactory, for either a corrupt public servant has been acquitted and retained in office, or the Political Agent and his Assistant are proved to be incompetent judges of evidence, having been convinced of the guilt of the accused on grounds which you regard as utterly inconclusive.

11. We must remark that the errors which you deemed to have been committed in conducting the inquiry, consisted chiefly in the omission to take certain evidence; and it would have been far preferable, instead of at once annulling the conviction, to direct that the inquiry should be re-opened, and the evidence taken.

12. We will add that Lieutenant-colonel Lang's subsequent letter, dated 24th June 1852, appears to us to remove several of your objections; and though we do not order a re-investigation of this case, which would probably be attended with no satisfactory result, we must impress upon you the very great importance, in all cases of judicial inquiries of this description, that no pains should be spared, and no measures omitted, which may lead to a more satisfactory conclusion than has been arrived at in this case. It is desirable that the future conduct of Rughoonath Rao should be most carefully watched.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 22 May 1850.

Persian Department.

No. 3924.

SUBSTANCE of a Petition from *Umersee Anundjee*, inhabitant of Katteewar, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, dated 11th, and received 31st January 1850.

WHEN Major Lang was appointed Political Agent in Katteewar, he sent for one Bappoojee Duyashunker, a Wurgnaggur Nuggur Bramin, inhabitant of Ahmedabad, who was employed on a small salary at Suddra, and at once gave him the situation of Foujadaree first karkoon, on a salary of 75 rupees per mensem. He is not required to perform the duties of the Foujdaree department, but has been entrusted with the Hoozoor territorial business, and the affairs of all the states. He has combined with Natra Mehta, the first karkoon of Lieutenant Black, Second Assistant to Political Agent, Ootwundass Mehta Malla and Betoboro, and is actually plundering the country; but as he is a favourite of Major Lang everybody is quiet, and no one ventures to say anything. Although complaints have been received from different quarters regarding his corrupt conduct, no inquiry appears to have yet been instituted. When the disputes between the Jam of Nownuggur and the heirs of Shet Soonderjee were under inquiry, lacs of korees were held in deposit in the Government treasury. When the matter was disposed of, Government issued orders to pay the money to Dossa Shet of Kutch, agreeably to the writings of Soonderjee's heirs; but Bapoojee and others having made arrangements with Shet Humsraj for bribes to the amount of thousands of korees, misrepresented matters to Major Lang, and had the Government orders set aside. More than 10,000 of korees must have been spent; but there is a writing of Shet Humsraj for that sum. Bapoojee's name is not openly mentioned in the document. It is stated therein, "When I get the korees from Government, I will pay 10,000 korees to the said party." When this writing was submitted to Major Lang, he, with a view to protect Bapoojee, had it inquired into by Lieutenant Black and his karkoon, Maka Mehta; he therefore saved Bapoojee, and dismissed the case. As there were proofs against Wula Mehta and Ootwundass, they were made to refund the korees. As no inquiry was made in regard to Bapoojee, he has been encouraged to pursue his former course of conduct. A Brahmin, by name Moolshunker, who was concerned in this very case of Shet Humsraj, has

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

lately been employed as karkoon on a salary of 20 rupees; and Bapoojee receives bribes through him. Moolshunker received 250 korees; and Madee Aslea got 200 korees. The account books of Poonja Shemjee Malajee furnish evidence on this subject. These books were sent for by the sirkar, but they were, I do not know how, returned without being examined. If Government wish to have this, as well as several other matters inquired into, a competent officer should be deputed from Bombay, when all the corrupt proceedings will come to light. When the officer comes here, he should issue a notification, telling the people to submit without fear their representations regarding the oppressive and corrupt conduct of Bapoojee, Matra Meha, and their accomplices. If this be done, their dishonest conduct will at once come to light.

(signed) *C. J. Erskine,*
Deputy Secretary to Government.

No. 3925. MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor concurred in by his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and the Honourable Mr. *Blane.*

IT is probable that this petition is under a fictitious signature; the original and its substance may be sent to the Political Agent in Katteewar, for such attention as he may deem advisable.

(signed) *Falkland.*
W. Cotton.
4 May 1850. *D. A. Blane.*

No. 2208 of 1850.

No. 3926. From *H. E. Goldsmid,* Esq., Secretary to Government, to Captain *H. Aston,* First Assistant in Charge, Katteewar Political Agency.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you, for such attention as you may deem advisable, an original petition (accompanied by an English version), purporting to proceed from an individual named Amursee Anundjee, dated the 11th January last, complaining of the conduct of some members of the native establishment of the Katteewar Agency.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. E. Goldsmid,*
Bombay Castle, 4 May 1850. Secretary to Government.

Persian Department.

No. 4081. SUBSTANCE of a Petition from *Lukureechund Lallchund,* residing at Rajcote, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, dated 15 December 1849 and received 19 January 1850.

AT present in this (Prant) province, in consequence of the perpetration of oppressions, murders, robberies and plunders being passed over without proper inquiry, the karbharrees receive bribes of thousands of rupees, and the cases of those parties who would not give bribes are not properly disposed of; and the cases of many persons have been neglected. These persons are kept daily attending at the bungalow of the Political Agent, and running after his swarree for the 10 and 11 months, entrusting their regular avocations of khetee (cultivation) to the hands of servants during the period. In this manner they suffer much; it is not within recollection that the Political Agent thoroughly investigated the business of any single person and disposed of it. In all affairs there has been a tendency to partiality; just cases have been decided to be unjust, and *vice versâ,* and none has been finally decided. In the time of Messrs. Barnwell, Erskine, Willoughby and Blane, such occurrences never took place. If Government will depute a new officer for holding an inquiry, I am prepared to establish the following facts, not otherwise.

1. The

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Rugoba.

1. The inquiries which were going on respecting the bribes formerly and at present received by the public karbharree have been stopped, as also further instances of bribes since brought to notice remain neglected. If Government will state the reason of this indifference, I shall submit a statement of the names of the guilty parties, together with particulars connected therewith.

2. The karbarree of Joonaghur, Annundjee Amerchund, was convicted of faithless conduct, and, in consequence, was prohibited from managing the business of the talooka of Rajcote. But he is at present conducting the whole of the affairs of Rajcote, and the Political Agent also gets him to do a great deal of business. This man daily holds private interviews for four or five hours with a young woman named Baee Naneebee. The successor (in office) of Annundjee Ahmed Jemedar is a good man, and is descended from a good family. He is aware of the irregular proceedings of this Anundjee, but he is unable to speak out, because the Political Agent's regard for him is day by day increasing.

3. It may be urged that because this Anundjee gave notice (with proofs) of the birth of an illegitimate child in the Nawab's family, and because he protected the daughter of Ramaloodeen Khan, who was about to be murdered by the Nawab, her husband, for some misconduct, the Political Agent shows him more and more kindness: such is the opinion also current among the Nuggurs. But these reasons are all false, and fabricated by Anundjee alone, for screening and excusing himself. The facts in question were elicited by letters sent by the Nawab himself, and the father of the girl. The Nawab witnessed with his own eyes this act (misconduct), and was himself satisfied thereof, and therefore the Government believed it. Government would never believe a man once convicted of falsehood, or found guilty of misconduct, as this Anundjee was. How would they then have believed him in this respect? Goolabroy was formerly found guilty of misconduct which deserved dismissal, but he was only suspended for six months, and it was ordered that he should not manage business (moolkhee ram) any more. He, being a ryot of Joonaghur, and his brother, Madhaorao, are in the receipt of jemajee (allowance) from the Nawab. By his hands, Goolabroy at present receives bribes and carries on trade. Through this Goolabroy, Government at present get their business managed, and all the affairs of Joonaghur are likewise transacted through him. He writes private letters to the Nawab and Anundjee on public matters, and these parties also correspond with him in the same manner; and information obtained through such a correspondence is communicated by Goolabroy to the Political Agent, and his answer obtained and conveyed in his own private letters. It is very suspicious why the Political Agent does not conduct his correspondence in this respect publicly as usual.

4. It is true that a son of the Nawab of Joonaghur was produced by cunning and artifice. With this fact the Nawab was at first unacquainted; but, on its transpiring, he came to know that this Anundjee was concerned from the beginning to the end in the transaction, and faithlessly connected with some of his beebees, and was therefore displeased with him, but was helpless on account of the regard of Government upon him. But if the Nawab had been questioned on these points, he would have given all the information. Ramaloodeen, having the good of the Nawab in view, spoke once to Anundjee, which occasioned a difference between them. He is a kinsman, and takes his seat near the Nawab, so that Annundjee could not carry on his improper proceedings; therefore he unjustly brought forward accusations against his daughter, and caused her to be sent away to his house: she has been excessively oppressed. It will clearly appear so on investigation.

5. Tajoo Bebee had a dutiful son. His friends were, at the instigation of Anundjee, conducting him along with them, under pretext of taking a walk round the house of the daughter of Ramaloodeen, and by a preconcerted plan he was at once killed by a sword near the door of the house. The deceased had not got into her house, nor had he committed any faithless act towards her; and yet the murder was perpetrated before her door. The deceased always spoke in opposition to Anundjee, and therefore he was destroyed out of spite. A servant man of Tagoo Bebee, named Jeeturam, of Nagur caste, has been gained over by Anundjee, who took his cousin and lodged him at his

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

house. The Political Agent did not take the least notice of this, nor of the letter from the Bebee, which was returned. In this manner an act of murder has been passed over, and Anundjee allowed, through bribes, which he is enabled to give from his riches, to silence every one, and have his own way in everything. Why do Government not inquire into this matter?

6. Poor people cannot get access to the Political Agent or his assistant on business, even after repeated applications for five and six days; but if Anundjee asks leave to speak to them, both officers immediately set aside public business, and grant him private audience for three and four hours. This indulgence enables him to give various assurances to the poor people, in presence of the public karbharrees.

7. This Anundjee gave a writing, holding himself answerable for three years to the sirkar for any loss that might result from defalcation, &c., in his management of Joonaghur during that period. Within this time, as indeed after it, he received bribes and committed many fraudulent and unbecoming acts in the Durbar of the Nawab, to his considerable losses, and at the expense of his character. Perceiving that the Nawab intended to dismiss him, he made misrepresentations to the Political Agent; and having obtained orders favourable to himself, forwarded them to the Nawab, and held out to him threats from Government in various ways; who, being an offspring of the great and master of the kingdom, out of respect to himself feared and put up with them. But the Government ought not to have interfered in such a business, because the Nawab is fully* to administer justice to his ryots and servants in every respect. Anundjee, who has been guilty of the above acts, is still permitted to accuse the Nawab for nothing.

* *Query?*—able.

8. The Political Agent looks suspiciously on those who appeal to the Bombay Government, and disgraces even a great raja who will not be swayed by his opinions in his private affairs; and, depending upon information given by Anundjee and others of his stamp, he conveys their misrepresentations to Government. The disgrace of the Rana of Porebunder is an instance in point, and the Raja of Moorvee has been watched with suspicion, because he made a petition to the Bombay Government. Anundjee is treated with great respect by all the karbarrees, in and out of the office; all the rest are treated with indifference by them.

9. On the arrival of the Political Agent in Katteewar, several petitions were presented. If an inquiry be made as to how many of these petitions were complied with, how many were rejected, and how many remain undisposed of, all the particulars will be known. If any one applies to the Political Agent on business, he refers him to his dufturdar, who tells the applicant that his business will be disposed of as soon as the Sahib gets leisure to come to the kutcherry; and never allows any one to visit him at home except Anundjee. The sheristadar attends to no one in the kutcherry, nor does he allow any one to see him at home. In this manner he conducts himself with great pride. I am not fully aware at present whether both these karbarrees receives bribes or not; as soon as I know it positively I shall report to Government. But at present they are very partial to Annundjee, which awakens suspicion. Goolabroy immediately attends to business on payment of a bribe, and also procures immediate access to the Political Agent.

10. The vakeel of Ramaloodeen Khan, by name Wullee Mahomed, is poor and avaricious. He brought a letter to the sirkar from the khan, in which several of Anundjee's fraudulent and oppressive acts were adverted to. With corrupt motives, the vakeel reported the contents to Anundjee, who bribed him and got him to alter the letter altogether, and to write in lieu unlimited accusations against the Nawab. Anundjee was convicted twice or thrice of misconduct, and as often publicly proscribed and removed from the service. He has been again permitted to transact business out of pure regard, disregarding all former notifications respecting him.

11. For the investigation of the above points, as indeed many others that may be brought forward, Government will be pleased, in view to the interest of their poor ryots being protected, to appoint Mr. Blane, who was formerly here, or the officer who was nominated Judicial Commissioner for the investigation

tigation of the affairs of Chotabhoy, or some other officer equally competent, to form a commission. Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

(signed) *C. J. Erskine*,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby*, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Blane*. No. 4082.

ALTHOUGH written under another name, it is very probable that this petition emanates from the same party from whom we have lately received another representation, preferring charges against some members of the Political Agent's establishment. The original of this petition, accompanied by an English version, should be sent to the Political Agent, in continuation of our late reference.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby*.
15 May 1850. *D. A. Blane*.

No. 2306 of 1850.—Political Department.

From *H. E. Goldsmid*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to Captain *H. Aston*, First Assistant Political Agent in Charge, Katteewar Agency. No. 4083.

Sir,

IN continuation of my letter of the 14th instant, No. 2208, I am directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you a petition in original, accompanied by an English version, purporting to proceed from one Lukneechund Lallchund, of the 15th December last, preferring certain complaints against the members of the native establishment of the Katteewar Agency.

I have, &c.
Bombay Castle, (signed) *H. E. Goldsmid*,
18 May 1850. Secretary to Government.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 12 June 1850.

Cons. No. 67 of 1850.—General, No. 177.—Political Department.

From Captain *H. Aston*, First Assistant Political Agent in charge, to *H. E. Goldsmid*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay. No. 4913.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to return herewith the original Guzerattee petition (and English translation) of Umersee Annundjee, referred for my report in your letter dated the 14th instant, No. 2208.

2. The particular subject of this petition was investigated by Major Lang, and the result reported in his letter No. 163, dated 27th October 1849; and the approval of his proceedings by Government was communicated in letter dated 22d November 1849, No. 5016.

3. As the enclosed translation of his recorded examination on the subject of the present petition will show that he has nothing further to adduce besides his gratuitous assertion, I trust the Right honourable the Governor in Council will approve of my not having done anything further in the matter.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Henry Aston*,
Katteewar Pol. Agency, First Assist. Pol. Agent in Charge.
Camp Porebunder, 30 May 1850.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

Forwarded to Mr. Secretary *Goldsmid* with Letter No. 177, Cons. No. 67, dated 30th May 1850.

NOTE.

Amursee Annundjee questioned before Lieutenant Barr, Second Assistant Political Agent, a f ollows:—

Question. You presented a petition to the Bombay Government on the 11th January, and in it you made assertions relative to Government carkoons receiving bribes; have you any evidence to bring forward on this subject?—*Answer.* At present I have not any proof, and what I had formerly produced before the sirkar (the Political Agent and Assistants), and among these proofs before produced was the word mujkoor (aforesaid). Thus it was written; but the investigation of this (word) was not fully carried out; and on account of my producing proofs they began to oppress me, and I therefore wrote the petition to Government.

Rajkote, 27 May 1850. (signed) *Ummursee Annundjee.*
(signed) *J. T. Barr.*

(True translation.)
(signed) J. Black, Third Assistant Political Agent.

(True copy.)
(signed) Henry Aston, First Asst. Pol. Agent in Charge.

No. 2816 of 1850.

No. 4914. From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, to Captain *H. Aston*, Assistant Political Agent in Charge, Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 20th ultimo, No. 177, relative to the petition from one Umersee Annundjee; and to inform you, that the Right honourable the Governor in Council approves of your proceedings therein reported.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet,*
Bombay Castle, 14 June 1850. Chief Secretary to Government.

(True extract.)
(signed) A. Malet, Chief Secretary.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 15 November 1851.

Government, No. 162.—General, No. 374 of 1851.

No. 8810. From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *Arthur Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Sir,

Political Department. I HAVE the honour to forward a copy of a letter from my First Assistant, Captain Aston, together with a translation of the petition, and proceedings sent with it, on the subject of the anonymous petition therein alluded to, and which, as requested by Bhutoor Veneeram, in whose name it is written, I beg to return herewith. I have not kept any copy of it; but as some of the charges contained in it are so serious, and as the author of it has added forgery to his former offence of anonymous slander, Government will perhaps consider it proper that some endeavours should be made to discover the party or parties concerned in getting up this and former petitions of the same kind. In this case, I shall feel obliged by your sending the original petition back to me; and by your informing me whether, if the offender cannot otherwise be discovered, it would not be advisable to authorise the persons accused of such heinous crimes as are insinuated or directly charged in the present petition, to offer such rewards as they may be willing to give for the discovery and conviction of their calumniator.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Lang,*
Political Agent.
Katteewar Political Agency,
Camp Mangrole, 20 September 1851.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

From Captain *H. Aston*, First Assistant Political Agent in Katteewar, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward an anonymous petition, reflecting on the character and conduct of individuals of this agency and others, which has been handed to me with the enclosed urzee, by a person well known here of the name of Bhutoor. The petition is addressed to the Right honourable the Governor in Council, and it would appear had been duly delivered as addressed; but though written in the name of Bhutoor, his signature not being subscribed, it was forwarded through the post-office to him to supply the apparent omission. Disclaiming all knowledge whatever of the paper or its framers, and deprecating the being suspected of having had anything to do with it, he delivered it to me, with a request that it may be returned through the Political Agent to the Right honourable the Governor in Council.

2. The anonymous petition exhibits internal evidence for inferring, that it was indited by one of that class of men known under the designation of Deccanees. It is in the handwriting of three persons. One of these, there appear reasons for inferring, must have been educated in Guzerat, that he may have been occupied with his pen in Katteewar. Another was probably a youth who has been educated in some school superintended by an European; at least, not in an ordinary native school. The third was one apparently educated in Katteewar.

3. I beg to enclose the rozkam of what passed between me and Bhutoor on his presenting his urzee.

I have, &c.
(signed) *H. Aston*,
Rajcote, 18 September 1851. First Assistant Political Agent.

(True copy.)
(signed) W. Lang, Political Agent.

Forwarded to Mr. Chief Secretary *Malet*, with Letter No. 374, Cons. No. 162.

PETITION from *Truwaree Bhutoor Veneeram*, to Captain *Henry Aston*, First Assistant Political Agent in Katteewar, on the part of the Honourable Company.

ON the third of the dark half of the month of Bhadurwa, of the present year, I received by the Government post a packet addressed to me. Upon opening this, I found in it a petition addressed in my name to the Right honourable the Governor of Bombay, dated Shrawun Sood 1st, complaining of the misconduct of the Joonaghur Karbharee Unutjee, and of certain Government servants, &c., and soliciting arrangements on the subject. To this petition the members of the Council have affixed the following order: "The petitioner, in reply, is informed that, as his petition bears no signature, it is returned to him. Dated 3d September 1851." The petition in question having been returned to me with this order, I read it from beginning to end, and am distressed in consequence; for I never wrote it, nor is it in my handwriting. Some enemies of mine have committed this mischief, in order to bring false accusations upon me. But God helps him who has the truth on his side, for the petition bears no signature; and it having been sent to me, I became acquainted with its contents. If it had been referred to the Political Agent for investigation, I, a poor man, would have been ruined for nothing; but owing to my good fortune, it has not so happened, and the petition came to me direct. I know nothing with regard to its being written, and I therefore beg to hand it to you herewith in original for your information. I know nothing about it. This is my petition.

Dated 16 September 1851. (signed) *Truwaree Bhutoor Veneeram.*

P.S.—In the petition above alluded to it is written, "Concealing my own name, I formerly presented a petition to you in the name of another person." Of this also I do not know anything, for I never made a petition before. In the said petition it has also been stated that I was employed in the Customs department, but I never performed any service in that department. Previous to the receipt by me of the petition in question on the above date, I did not know that it had been or would be written. Some enemies of mine have done it purposely to have me accused falsely, and you will therefore be pleased to make an investigation on the subject.

Dated as above. (signed) *Truwaree Bhutoor Veneeram.*

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

No. 2052.—Rajkamar Proceedings.

Truwaree Bhutoor Veneeram, by caste Shurmalee Brahmin, inhabitant of Gogo, at present residing in the Rajcote Poora, having appeared before me this 16th September 1851, presented a petition, with one addressed in the name of Bhutoor Veneeram, to the Right honourable the Governor in Council, dated 28th July 1851, and stated before me as follows: "Some one has made this petition in my name to Government, but I know nothing about its being written, nor do I know anything regarding what is stated therein; some one has falsely inserted my name in it. On my receiving this petition by the post from Government, with their order affixed thereto, dated 3d September 1851, No. 443, directing me to sign it, I became acquainted with the subject." On the said Bhutoor Veneeram's stating to this effect, he was questioned on the subject, and in reply he further stated as follows: "I did not write the petition myself, nor did I cause any other person to write it, nor do I know anything about it. Although I made inquiries about it, yet I could not discover its writer; I knew nothing about the petition, either before or after it was written, nor did I make any petition before to the Governor in Council, either in my own name or in that of another person."

Dated Sumvut 1907, Bhadurwa Wud 6th, Tuesday, corresponding with the 16th September 1851.

P.S.—*Q*. Why do you present this petition to me, which was sent to you by the Bombay Government?—*A*. Some one has written it falsely in my name, and I therefore lay it before you, in order that you may make inquiries with the view to find out the person who wrote it, and then to return it to the Bombay Government.

Dated Sumvut 1907, Bhadurwa Wud 6th, Tuesday, corresponding with the 16th September 1851.

(signed) *H. Aston*, First Assistant Political Agent.

(True translation.)

(signed) W. Lang, Political Agent.

No. 1244 of 1851.—Persian Department, 10 October 1851.

Substance of a Petition from *Bhutoor Veneeram*, originally a Resident in Gogo, now in Rajkote, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, dated 28 July, and received 2 October 1851.

My petition is that the British Government, being very just, allows no poor ryot to be oppressed; and yet there are some things which do not come to the notice of Government in this division, and many oppressive acts beyond all bounds happen to the ryots of Government. Conceive lacks of rupees in bribes in this talookah; and should the poor have any business to be done, every objection is made to them, that the opponents may give higher rates of bribes, so that finally every business is settled as they think proper, and those whose claims are proper cannot attain to them. Many people are ruined, and the complaint of the friendless does not reach Government. Should every talookdar, taking courage, resolve to send a petition to Government, it is returned with an order to apply to the agent, and that gentleman writes as he thinks fit, upon the false statements of his clerks, to Government on the subject; and thus the petitioner finally receives the orders of Government, and his hopes are never fulfilled, and the deceived Political Agent and his clerks become his enemies without cause; and from this enemy the petitioner is much injured. So no poor man dares to bring his complaint to Government; although very just, it becomes a vain idea; and if any bribery is heard of, the same answer is given. And now I have lived long in Gogo, and as my name is known in the districts, I send this petition in my name as follows: The Political Agent, when he understands certain people to be men of respectability, and they have committed any robberies on the road, sends the foot traces to be taken into some ignorant district, and should there be murder, a charge is concocted against an innocent man, or a false reason is shown up to the Political Agent, who has the matter hushed up (literally, makes it fly away); or should the case happen, conceals the matter immediately. In all these things the karbarees, taking bribes, deceive the Government, and I can prove this. Therefore, I having written a petition to Government, in the name of Lucmeechund Lallchund; on 15th December 1849, received an answer, dated 30th April 1850, to the effect, that the matter, being on inquiry, would be settled hereafter. Having heard this, I believed that a proper inquiry would be made, and that I would come forward in my own name and go on with the inquiry, so that the oppression of the poor be turned aside.

2 The people of this place think thus, that Mr. Willoughby, who was here, is no longer in Bombay; and Mr. Malet, who was also here, being his son-in-law, has a good place; and all the clerks in his time and before that took bribes and caused much deceit, and yet he was kind to them and will continue to be so; and when Mr. Frere was about to come here he

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

he was stopped. Captain Lang, too, was about to come, and had been formerly an assistant here. So the karbharies were full of resolution: "No one will now prevail against us;" and from their speaking thus, I thought it would be easy to give a petition and conceal my name, and therefore made an anonymous petition, the Government will perceive, from this and a former petition. Moreover, on this subject I must inform the Government, that I suspect that if Government will not conduct an inquiry according to my suggestions, I shall certainly be ruined, but should Government make a proper investigation, I will show my real name, not before that; and therefore my petition was sent to the Political Agent, and as he wrote to Government, it was believed, and the inquiry was not proceeded with, and much of the business has been concealed, which was very extraordinary.

3. My name is now known by this petition; and I say, that now Mr. Willoughby is not in Council, and Messrs. Blane and Bell are both very just men, and aware of all customs of the country and regulations of Government; and, moreover, they have no partiality; and, having pity on the poor, they give the Governor good advice. Mr. Malet is also there, and if anyone should suggest any irregularity, he will not let it pass; and I, knowing this, because I saw Mr. Bell's justice at Ahmedabad, and Mr. Blane was a Political here, and came to Gogo, where I saw his justice, and no one will now be injured; and, therefore, I wrote a few things in my petition which are true, or if false, let a judicial gentleman be sent here, and he will be satisfied, and I will come forward and will prove all my statements. But should Goverment order the Political Agent to make the inquiry, or send this petition to him, I could not agree to that, and will deny everything; so I tell Government beforehand. Because Captain Lang is very cool and kind, and believes all that his karbharies say, and those who take much bribes he believes to be the most trustworthy servants. Therefore, I am not willing to have my business conducted by Captain Lang.

4. First, Goolabroy, and Bhugwanlal, and Ununtjee were in league together. Bhugwanlal, a very proper well-conducted person; but both the others were evil disposed, and caused Mr. Malet to alter all Bhugwanlal's propositions; and Goolabroy used to conduct the business of the Adawlut, and had charge of attachments; so that, being a serushtedar, he had a great habit of taking bribes; and had not these two persons been friends with Bhugwanlal, this person had never done such things. But, being now all of one mind, they take lacs of rupees from the people of this division, and have their arrangements and influence in Bombay. Before Captain Lang arrived, there was some inquiry into their bribery; but suddenly Captain Lang took pity on them, and one complaint being fixed on Bhugwan he was dismissed the Government. But Goolabroy was the chief person, but was not convicted; and, therefore, after six months' suspension, he was reinstated, and lost some steps in the service. Anuntjee, another chief person and sharer in the bribery, was convicted; and the honour of a chair, which had been granted, was withdrawn, and he was suspended from his business in Rajkote, and, as long as the Nuwab might entertain him, was confirmed to the work of Junagur; but, wonderful to say, no other punishment was awarded.

5. In the same manner, Jemadar Sayed Hamed was appointed, by the advice of Anundjee and the consent of Government, to do duty with the lady of this place (?). In the same manner, the kharbaree of Paleetana, Umrutlal, was his brother, and the Government wished to remove him, and in his place Sakurlal was appointed; and he is the son-in-law of the brother of Goolabraee, and Government thinks, no doubt, that everything will go well, and Goolabraee and Unendjee will take no bribes. But all the district work is in their hands, and they have great power for their offices, and take lacs of bribes, and confine all business, either Government or others. This Anundjee and Umrutlal, and others, are all in league, and are the movers of the Rajkote office and the business about farms.

6. I have heard that in this district Government have determined that the brothers and relatives of kharbharees shall not be employed in the district services, and should any one be in the district employ, their relations shall not be kept in the Political service; therefore the Political Agent at once discharged a son of Jemadar Muncharam of this place, and the brothers and cousins of Goolabraee may have formerly offended Government, and may be secretly maintained by the talookdars, being still in Government employ. This should be inquired into. Anundjee was appointed first of all to Junagur by Mr. Malet, with the consent of Government, and a writing was taken from him; but he has not acted up to it, but taken lacs of bribes; therefore the late Nuwab was about to examine his accounts, and he was stopped from coming to the Government House, and Hubeeb Khan appointed in his stead; and the Nuwab wished to see the whole matter proved on him, and to have him punished. Therefore Unendjee thought it would go hard with him, and therefore frightened him with reports to the agent; but the Nuwab, without caring for this, sent his own man direct to Rajkote with his letter to the Political Agent. And Unendjee afterwards became aware of this, perhaps, for he and Goolabraee, when papers were sent to Rajkote, despatched a horseman and took them from him, and did not allow him to give them to the gentleman, so that the Nuwab was helpless; yet Anendjee and Goolabraee agreed to give the Nuwab compensation, and Goolabraee reported the matter in a distorted form to the Political Agent, so that the Nuwab was abused. And when the Nuwab heard of this, though on the point of death, he left Junagur with the intention of visiting the Political Agent, who was at Moorubee, and telling the whole affair to him. The Political Agent having been informed of this design, removed his camp to Jeegoovarrah; then the Nuwab being helpless returned to Junagur, after going round by Rajkote and Moorubee. On hearing this, Anendjee was very angry, and said, "Never mind; I will take notice of this in a suitable manner." In

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

the meantime the Nuwab died suddenly of fever; no one knows the real reason, but Government should inquire, and it will be found out there are other subjects, which I am ready to prove. Unendjee exaggerated the Nuwab's bad habits and eating opium, and informed the Government, but nothing has yet been discovered besides this; there has been no inquiry, but there much confidence in his verbal statements. The Nuwab had no wish to enter into his deceitful tricks, and he therefore engaged direct in the deceit with the ladies of this place. At first the Nuwab was not aware he wished to ruin the Nuwab's character; but the Nuwab entertained the wish to punish him, but died, and therefore the matter was stopped. I can prove this.

7. When the Nuwab died, two of his ladies were "enciente," and it was well known the Nuwab was sick, when Anendjee wrote a letter in his name to Mr. Black, the Political Agent, and called him, in the hope that whatever gentleman might come, he should be able to keep down the people and deceive him, making arrangements as he pleased, and rob the Treasury. Thus the Nuwab died on Sunday, and the body was kept all night until the next morning, during which time much treasure was made away, when Mr. Black was informed the body was buried. The same day, Najoo Beebee's son, Mohubut Khan, the deceased Nuwab's brother and son-in-law of the Nuwab, of Radhampoor, was at Radhampoor, and he came to Junagur, and the treasure, we all remained under with Unendjee so many days. After that, Captain Lang made a punchayet of Unendjee, Mahomed Khan Babee, and Hubeeb Khan, and sent Goolabroy as president, having confidence in him; but Mahomed Khan, as he is a very weak old man, and therefore acted as Anundjee proposed, and Hubeeb Khan is very clever, but will care of himself, therefore I cannot speak of him; because when the Nuwab died, it is the custom to release prisoners, and Anendjee released the brother of Hubeeb Khan (Nuthoo Khan), and therefore Hubeeb Khan was put down, and became useless, and Goolabraee was on the side of Government, and there was no connivance between him and Anendjee, so that all that Anendjee wished he took from the Treasury, and only left five lacs of couries in the Treasury. In the meantime Mohubut Khan came, and was installed on the throne; and first of all his mother Najoobeebee petitioned Mr. Black to shut up the Treasury, so that gentleman put a sealing wax seal upon the door. If Government will inquire, I will show proof as to how much treasure Anendjee dissipated. Anendjee did report in a vague manner about the ladies being "enceinte," but that is all a mistake; and the Political Agent, being favourably disposed to Anendjee, made no inquiries. Goolabraee informed the Political Agent that the Nuwab of Radhunpoor had come to Junagur with Mohubut Khan with his army, and had created disunion at Junagur, and thus detracted from the character of so great a man; this is false, but no inquiry was made. After Mohobut Khan was put on the throne, his age being about 16 years, and Najoo Beebee being of full age, and being very clever, will be able to carry on the Government, on taking any respectable men with her, whomever the Government may think fit to appoint, or Mr. Aston, or Mr. Black, or Barr, may appoint; but Anendjee shall not be placed here, and his accounts should be examined. Therefore she gave a petition to this effect to the Political Agent, who took no steps to inquire; but thinking that the Government had no share in appointing Anendjee, became angry with the Nuwab and his mother, and appointed Anendjee for five years, and gave away the farms within the estate, according to the advice of Anendjee. With the hope that the tribute to Government and the relations with Rajkote, would be well kept up, and the ryots not oppressed, and the arrangements of this district conducted as other districts, he entrusted the settlement of Junagur to Anendjee. Accordingly, Rao Saheb Takarsabhaee, Goolabraee, and Anendjee being in league, deceive the Government, and unfortunately all they say is believed.

8. The Dufturdar Takarsabhaee for a few days went on well, but he being in this league takes bribes, he and Anendjee and Jeetram, a sort of vakeels and others, taking no notice of offences, only according to the statement of Goolabraee. A false prosecution was arranged against Ramjee Mehtah and Katab Wora, but it was not proved, and they were forbidden the bungalow. This is wonderful. In the same way Salabheen Nassur, a jamadar with whom I am now in service, has had some difference with the Thakore of Bhownuggur, which has come before the agent; but the jamadar is not a person to take bribes, and therefore the above-named person have given the agent at Rajkote bad advice, and he ordered him away from Rajkote, and he went and lived at Jeetpore, and has removed them. The Political Agent sent for him by horsemen, saying that he was a troublesome person, and should be dismissed; such is the oppression exercised by the kharbharees. The Political Agent thinks those who are troublesome good men, and the good men he thinks seditious.

9. There are two orders on every subject, and right claims are made wrong, and bribery and corruption are made right, but Government takes no notice of these things. If, at first no inquiry is made, it becomes worse, and men's lives are in danger; therefore I hope that Government will inquire into the whole of this matter, and order a judicial officer up to make inquiry about Anend's bad conduct. A few days ago Goolabraee sold and gave away a house bought by one of Virejdass's firm; from this about 13,000 couries have not yet been recovered, and his house was taken violently from him, which is a very improper affair, because this is a mujmoodar of the Gaekwar's government, and a well-wisher of the British Government; and his brothers and nephews are in Government employ, and himself of much respectability. Notwithstanding, the Political Agent appointed Anendjee, and has placed confidence in him without taking any sort of security or agreement, as are often done in a rascally

rascally Government. Well, Mr. Aston made a proper inquiry, and from the old records, and established the rights of the Porbunder man in the boundary dispute of Ajukhmekhree; about this Anendjee and the Junagur men only informed the gentlemen verbally, and the Political Agent, without looking at the document, confirmed the claim of the Junagur man and annulled that of Porbunder, which will be shown if an inquiry is made, and Mr. Aston was abused undeservedly; therefore the Political Agent's partiality will be very apparent, and if he has taken bribes should be punished. I would not give Government this trouble if I did not know it would not otherwise have never come to their knowledge, and I am ready to prove this. Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

(signed) *A. Richardson,*
Deputy Secretary to Government.

Your petition is returned, because there is no name attached.

(signed) *A. Richardson,*
3 September 1851. Deputy Secretary to Government.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Blane*, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Bell*. No. 8811.

I DO not think any advantage is likely to result from attempting to trace anonymous petitions.

If the matter contained in them do not afford sufficient clue for further investigation, it may be presumed to be groundless and undeserving of notice.

In case of the parties in whose name the petitions are written, or any one accused or reflected upon therein being desirous of detecting the writer, with a view of seeking redress on their own account, the original petition will be returned for that purpose.

(signed) *D. A. Blane.*
14 October 1851. *A. Bell.*

No. 1282 of 1851.

Persian Department, 17 October 1851.

SUBSTANCE of a Petition from Mehta *Bhutoor Veneeram*, Inhabitant of Gogo, and now residing at Rajkote, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council; dated 18 September, and received 1 October 1851. No. 8812.

A FEW days ago I forwarded a petition to Government, stating among other things, that the Government servants in the political establishment of this place received bribes and oppressed the Bhomias. As the particulars must have become known to Government, I will not trouble your Lordship in Council with a recapitulation of the same in this petition. As I unfortunately forgot to sign the (former) petition, Government returned it to be signed. The post-office sepoy showed the petition to several Government karkoons, and then delivered it to me. As the post office and Captain Aston's bungalow are situated near each other, the fact of the petition having been made became known to all. In consequence of this, all the people came to me, and I was obliged to show them the petition. I disavowed it, and said that I had not written it, and that some enemy of mine must have written in my name. On this, they all advised me to make a representation accordingly to Captain Aston, and said that if I did not do so, I should be ruined. I therefore made a representation to the said officer, lest all the people should injure me. I have stated all the particulars in my former petition; and Government would have ordered a fair inquiry to be made, had it not been for my evil star. I now beg to state, that I wrote the petition in question, and that I have stated in it many circumstances connected with myself, with which no other person is acquainted to be able to write. What I have stated in the petition is true. When an inquiry is instituted, I and many other aggrieved parties will establish the truth of all the statements. I therefore request that this, as well as the former petition, may be

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

referred to the Judicial Commissioner. The talookdars are willing to pay the batta of the Judicial Commissioner if he comes to this place, as also any other expenses. I therefore request that your Lordship in Council will be pleased to have an inquiry made as to whether the complaints are well founded or otherwise. I beg that the whole proceedings may be withdrawn from the Political Agent. If ordered, I and the other parties are willing to go to Bombay; but the charges cannot be established unless an inquiry is made here. Having no remedy left to me, I disavowed my former petition, and gave it to Captain Aston. Pardon this trifling fault of mine, and allow me a fair inquiry.

(signed) *A. Richardson,*
Deputy Sec. to Government.

No. 8813. MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Blane*, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Bell.*

PETITIONER may be informed that the allegations in his petition, now acknowledged, are too general to admit of their being taken any notice of; but if he have any specific charge to bring forward, he may state it, with the evidence on which it is based, in a more cognisable form.

(signed) *D. A. Blane.*
21 October 1851. *A. Bell.*

No. 8814. MEMORANDUM.

THE Chief Secretary begs to state, that the decision of the Honourable Board, date 21st instant, on a further petition from Bhitoor Veneeram, date 13th September, affects the Minute on Major Lang's letter of the 20th September; he would suggest that, in reply to that letter, a copy of Veneeram's further petition and the answer sent him by Government be transmitted for that officer's information.

26 October 1851. (signed) *A. Malet,* Chief Secretary.

No. 4767 of 1851.—Political Department.

No. 8815. From *A. Malet,* Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to Major *William Lang,* Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 162, dated the 20th September last, and to transmit for your information translation of a further petition from Bhuttoor Veneeram, dated the 18th September last. An English version of the reply returned to Bhuttoor is also enclosed.

I have, &c.
Bombay Castle, (signed) *A. Malet,*
4 November 1851. Chief Secretary.

No. 4768 of 1851.

No. 8816. RESOLUTION of Government in the Political Department.

WITH reference to the translation of a petition from Mehta Bhutoor Veneeram, dated the 18th September last, ordered, that he be informed through the Persian Department, that the allegations therein contained are too general to admit

admit of their being taken any notice of; but that if he have any specific charge to bring forward, he may state it, with the evidence on which it is based, in a more cognisable form, an English version being forwarded to the Political Department. Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle,
4 November 1851.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, November 1851.

Government, No. 185 of 1851.—General, No. 423.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *Arthur Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay. No. 9189.

Sir,

With reference to my letter of the 20th ultimo and its several accompaniments, I have the honour to forward translation of another petition, given to my assistant, Captain Aston, at Rajkote, by Bhutoor Veneeram, the person in whose name the petition transmitted with the above communication was written. The original order, signed by Mr. Secretary Richardson, which is alluded to in Bhutoor Veneeram's present petition, is likewise enclosed. Political Department.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Lang*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency,
Camp Mangrole, 30 October 1851.

Forwarded to Mr. Chief Secretary *Malet*, with Letter No. 423, Consul. No. 185; dated 30 October 1851.

Petition from *Truwaree Bhutoor Veneeram* to Captain *Henry Aston*, First Assistant Political Agent in Katteewar on the part of the Honourable Company.

Formerly some one in my name having sent, under date the 28th July, a petition to the Bombay Government, it was returned to me by them in original; upon which I presented one to you from myself dated, stating whatever I had to say on the subject, and enclosing in it the original petition received from Government. Subsequent to this, I received by the post, on the 23d October, an order addressed to me by the Secretary of the Court, dated the 15th October, in which that functionary writes to me to say, that my petition, dated the 18th September, was received by the Council. This is a surprising thing, for I know nothing about writing or sending this petition (to Government), nor do I know who has made it in my name; and I therefore beg to request that you will be pleased to make full investigation on the subject, so as to find out the man making petitions in my name. The order above alluded to as received by me by the post, I beg to send herewith in original, with a request that you will be pleased to make proper arrangements on the subject.

Dated 27 October 1851. (signed) *Truwaree Bhutoor Veneeram.*

(True translation.)

(signed) W. Lang, Political Agent.

Minute by the Right honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Blane* and the Honourable Mr. *Bell*. No. 9190.

We received, on the 2d October, a petition purporting to be written by Bhuttoor Veneeram, date 28th July last. This was sent to the Political Agent, Katteewar, for report, and was returned by that officer, with the denial of Bhutoor Veneeram that he ever wrote or knew anything of the petition. Another petition, date 17th September, was received, purporting to be by the same person, stating his reasons for denying the authorship of the former one,

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

but that it was true, and that he was ready, on certain conditions, to prove the circumstances related in it.

The usual communication acknowledging its receipt was made to him from the Persian Department, and it was translated, and submitted to Government.

The matter appearing to deserve cautious treatment, he was informed by Government that he was at liberty to bring forward his complaints in a more cognisable form, and a copy of the reply was sent to Major Lang.

We have now a letter from the Political Agent enclosing this person's denial of the latter petition made previous to his receipt of the orders of Government, and consequent on the notice sent him by the Persian Department. I think the originals of the petitions should be sent to Major Lang, that he may take the necessary steps to clear up the matter.

(signed) *Falkland.*
D. A. Blane.
A. Bell.

13 November 1851.

No. 4965 of 1851.—Political Department.

No. 9191. From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Kattewar.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 158, dated the 30th ultimo, forwarding translation of a communication from Bhutoor Veneeram, denying all knowledge of the second petition which has been submitted to Government in his name, and in order that you may adopt the necessary measures for clearing up the matter, the two originial petitions (dated 28 July and 18 September) are herewith forwarded to you.

2. You will be pleased to return these petitions, with your reply.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet,*
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle,
20 November 1851.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, December 1851.

No. 1358 of 1851.—Persian Department.

No. 9490. MEMORANDUM.

WITH reference to the transfer from the Political Department, No. 4768, dated the 4th instant, the deputy secretary has the honour to forward the accompanying English version of the reply returned to Mehta Bhutoor Veneeram, under date the 4th idem.

(signed) *A. Richardson,*
Deputy Sec. to Government.

Bombay Castle,
12 November 1851.

Persian Department.

TRANSLATION of a Letter from the Deputy Secretary to Government to *Mehta Bhutoor Veneeram*, dated 4 November 1851.

Government Resolutions, Political Department, No. 4768 of 1851.

WITH reference to your petition, dated the 18th September last, I am directed to inform you, that the allegations therein contained are too general to admit of their being taken any notice of; but that if you have any specific charge to bring forward, you may state it with the evidence on which it is based, in a more cognisable form.

(signed) *A. Richardson,*
Deputy Sec. to Government.

(True copy.)
(signed) A. Richardson, Deputy Sec. to Government.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 21 January 1852.

Government, No. 204.—General, No. 461 of 1851.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *Arthur Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay. No. 362.

Sir,

With reference to my letters of the 20th September and 30th October last, and their accompaniments, I have the honour to forward translations of two further petitions since presented to my assistant, Captain Aston, by Bhutoor Veeneram, the person in whose name certain petitions have lately been sent to Government, and I beg, as requested, to return the order from Mr. Secretary Richardson, alluded to by that individual in the last of his petitions, dated 22d instant.

I have, &c.

Kattywar Political Agency, Camp Mangrole, 24 November 1851.

(signed) *William Lang*, Political Agent.

Petition from *Truwaree Bhutoor Veneeram* to Captain *H. Aston*, First Assistant Political Agent in Kattywar, on the part of the Honourable Company.

Some one having made petitions to the Bombay Government in my name, one of them was returned to me by them, considering that it was from me. This petition I handed over to you in original, with another petition from myself; subsequent to this I received a written order from the secretary in the Court, which I also, under date the 27th October, made over to you in original, with a petition from me, containing my explanations on the subject: but I am still afraid that the enemies who made the above petition in my name, God knows why, may also make another petition in my name on the subject, and the sirkar ought therefore to make the necessary arrangements beforehand for the discovery of the person or persons making these petitions. Further, I requested the post-office clerk, Merwanjee, to let me know the name of the person sending the said petition to Government by the post, but he would not do so; I therefore beg to request that you will be pleased to write to the post-master, who has arrived here, or to any other person you may deem proper, to ascertain from the post-office records the name of the person bringing the petition in question to the post-office for despatch, and then to let you know the same.

(signed) *Truwaree Bhutoor Veneeram.*

Dated 7 November 1851.

Petition from *Truwaree Bhutoor Veneeram* to Captain *Henry Aston*, First Assistant Potical Agent in Kattywar, on the part of the Honourable Company, Rajcote.

Some enemies of mine having made petitions to the Bombay Government in my name, they returned one of them to me with an order to my address; but I not knowing anything about it, made over the documents to you with sorrow, and with a petition from myself, stating in it what I had to say on the subject. I have lately received another order from the secretary in the Court, dated the 4th November 1851, but I know nothing about what is written in it, and I therefore beg to send the same to you herewith in original, with a request that you will be pleased to make speedy arrangements on this subject, as solicited in my former petition. This is my petition.

Dated 22 November 1851. (signed) *Truwaree Bhutoor Veneeram.*

P. S.—The petition dated the 18th September, alluded to in the order herewith sent, you will be pleased to send for from Government, and inquire in whose handwriting it is, and who had sent it to Government.

Dated as above. (signed) *Truwaree Bhutoor Veneeram.*

(True translation.)

(signed) William Lang, Political Agent.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

No. 363.

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Board.

MAJOR LANG may be referred to the letter to his address from Government, date 20th November.

(signed) *Falkand.*
J. Grey.
D. A. Blane.
A. Bell.

6 January 1852.

No. 220 of 1852.

No. 364.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Major *William Lang*, Political Agent in Kattywar.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 24th November last, No. 204, submitting translations of two petitions from Bhutoor Veneeram, and to refer you to my communication, No. 4965 of the 20th idem, conveying the instructions of Government in the case.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 15 January 1852.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, October 1852.

No. 1185 of 1852.—Persian Department.

SUBSTANCE of a Petition from *Turwadee Bhuttoor Veneeram* to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, dated 21st August, and received 7th September 1852.

I AM a resident of Ghoga and a son of a respectable person. On my coming to recover the amount for which I stood a security from Jamadar Sallee bin Nasur, I was obliged to stop here. In the mean time the trial of the charge of having received a bribe by Rughoonath Row, the English writer, was carried on, and I believe that your Lordship in Council must be aware of it. I have many things to divulge to your Lordship in Council, and which I cannot do to the authorities here. If any officer shall be sent here, and if Government should wish to inquire into the matter, I shall reveal him every mystery on the subject. I have carried on the matter merely out of regard to the welfare of Government, and I am not in fault at all, which will be known easily by your Lordship in Council. I only trusted in the promise held out to me by Political Agent here. I am not acquainted with the customs of this place. The same officer, without fulfilling his promise, disgraced me without a cause, which will be known to your Lordship in Council from the following circumstances.

In the Durbar of talooka Ghondal, there is a karbharee, Doolubhjee Moolshunkar, who has no guarantee from Government, and the talookdar is not a young boy, but he has arrived at maturity. The above karbharee acts externally in a respectable manner, and agreeably to the desire of the sirkar injured the boundaries of the talooka; and there are several ways of his servants of appropriating the money to their own use, and he manages the affairs of the state absolutely, and never takes the advice or permission of the talookdar. When he (the talookdar) makes a complaint, he accuses him of false charges before the Government authority. When he (the talookdar) came to know these evil acts of the karbharee, he was not willing to keep him in his service; I was

I was therefore called through some respectable man, and having reposed confidence in me, he was going to confer the situation of the karbharee on me, but I advised him to report the same to the local Government authority, when the talookdar furnished me with a letter under his signature, to the address of Mr. Lang, which I carried to that officer, who, without regard to it, made an unjust endorsement on it, in which he, out of regard to Doolubhjee, stated me to be a traitor, without setting forth any reasons for the same. I herewith have forwarded the copies of the petition I presented there, and the endorsement on it, and on a reference to it your Lordship in Council will be satisfied that partiality prevails here. I pray that an order may be issued to me to perform the affairs of talooka Gondal, because the thacore Shree is inclined to agree to this arrangement. I shall produce securities about Government peshkuasse, &c., as usual, and the talookdar is at liberty to employ or dismiss his karbharee; Government has no reason to interfere in the matter, or to disgrace any person. I therefore request that such a proceeding may not take place in future; though the talookdar is pleased with me, yet the present karbharee exercises oppression, which is unjust in the upright Government of your Lordship in Council, and I pray that a stop may be put to it.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

(signed) *A. Richardson,*
12 October 1852. Deputy Sec. to Government.

Minute by the Honourable Mr. *Blane*, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Bell*.

This petition should be sent in original to Major Lang, with reference to his letter of the 18th ultimo, when a copy of the translation, as it may aid him in discovering the author of the pseudonymous petition which has lately been presented.

(signed) *D. A. Blane.*
26 October 1852. *A. Bell.*

No. 4703 of 1852.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Kattewar.

Sir,

With reference to your letter, No. 162, dated the 18 ultimo, I am directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you, in original, a petition with copy of its translation, from Tarwadee Bhuttoor Veeneram, dated the 21st August last, as it may aid you in discovering the author of the pseudonymous petition alluded to by you.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet,*
Bombay Castle, 27 October 1852. Chief Secretary.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, June 1852.

Government, No. 64 of 1852.—General, No. 141.—Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Kattewar to *H. E. Goldsmid*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay. No. 4684.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward, for the information and instructions of Government, copy of a report from my first assistant, Captain Barr, and translation of the proceedings therein alluded to, regarding certain accusations of bribery against the head accountant of this Agency, Rugonath Rao Ragoba. The person who has brought forward these charges is Bhutoor Veneeram, in whose name the petitions regarding Joonaghur affairs, sent in to Government some months ago, were written. On receiving these petitions back, with Mr. Chief Secretary Malet's letter of the 20th November last, No. 4965, I gave them to the Joonaghur karbaree, and recommended him and the other persons included with him in the accusations they contain, to endeavour by every

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

means in their power to discover the writer or writers of them. The present accusations of the head accountant by Bhutoor himself has been the result, and although as regards the authorship of the petitions to Government, there is no evidence whatever to implicate him, and no sufficient grounds even for suspicion against him, I regret to state, that after a careful investigation, the conviction has been forced upon me that the other accusations against him are well founded.

2. The denial by the woman who gave him the chain of the statement she gave on the subject in the first instance, renders this part of the accusation incapable of legal proof, but as it is impossible to doubt that the chain was the one belonging to her husband, both from her own first statement (anxious as she has shown herself throughout to save the accused) and the evidence given by her nephew and the goldsmith who made it, I have considered it proper to keep the chain in the Treasury pending the orders of Government on the subject, and would recommend that it be given to the woman's nephew, Shunkur Gungaram, who appears at one time to have been adopted by her, and is heir to the property after her death.

3. I submitted the accounts of Juwere Nagjee, from whom the sum of 200 rupees was taken up by this same woman for payment to the head accountant to the scrutiny of two of the most intelligent karbarees I could select at Rajcote, those of the Bhownuggur and Morwee talookas; and their report will be found on the proceedings. This tends to confirm my own conviction that, whatever attempt at concealment may have been made in these accounts in other respects, there can be no doubt of the entry of the head accountant's name in them having been made at the time to which they refer, and to the money raised on the mortgage as well as that afterwards paid to redeem it having been received and paid by him, or on his account. The open nature of these entries, however, made at a time when Rugonath Rao and Juwere Nagjee were on the best of terms, together with the admission so readily made by the woman when first questioned about the chain, caused a strong impression on my mind that there might be some other way of accounting for Rugonath Rao's transactions with this old woman's family, without implicating him in the serious charge which had been preferred by Bhutoor against him. I therefore urged him repeatedly to let me know if he could explain the matter in any other way, but as he persisted to the last in denying that he had ever had any transactions of the sort, and in asserting that the chain was the one given to him by his brother-in-law in Bombay, the only conclusion I can come to is, either that Bhutoor's accusation is correct, or that he received the articles in some other way that he considers equally disreputable, and cannot therefore acknowledge.

4. The Bawa by whom the other item of 300 rupees is stated to have been given, is such a disreputable character, and after every possible inquiry, I could discover such little grounds for paying this bribe, that I should have been disposed to have given the head accountant the full benefit of the many discrepancies in the evidence regarding this charge, and acquitted him of it altogether, but for the strong corroboration afforded by the entry in Juwere Nagjee's accounts to the truth of it also. There is likewise clear proof in Luckmeechund Sunkurdass' books of the sum of 400 rupees having been received by hoondee from Jaitpoor on the Bawa's account, and paid to Pareck Munguljee Goo, the same person who is mentioned in Juwere Nagjee's account as having paid the money out of this sum to redeem the mortgage in Juwere Nagjee's possession; and the fact of this payment having been made two days before the hoondee was due, and which of course appeared at first to be most suspicious, is fully explained by an entry in Luckmeechund's books of a small charge for discount on the hoondee, and by the money appearing by that sowcar's daily cash account to have been paid at the latest on a date which would correspond with the Poshwud 13th, of Juwere Nagjee's account, as I found by referring to our own Treasury books, there having been some slight confusion in the dates at that particular time, as is occasionally the case with the native dates from having two days the same. Of the 400 rupees thus paid on account of the Bawa, there is further proof in Luckmeechund's books of 100 rupees having been refunded a few days afterwards; the person who drew the

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

the hoondee at Jaitpoor having written in the meantime only to cash it to the extent of 300 rupees, and both Munguljee Goo and Luckmeechund's gomashta, Mowjee Jetha, assert that the 400 rupees were paid by them to Rugonath Rao, although neither of them admitted this when first questioned on the subject, and Munguljee had been kept a night in confinement by Captain Barr to prevent his seeing any of the other witnesses before he did so. The statements both of Mowjee Jeta and Munguljee as regards the quarter from which the sum of 100 rupees was refunded, are very unsatisfactory, and positive as are their assertions, as well as those of the Bawa about the payment of this bribe, I should not, as already stated, have considered them sufficient to convict Rugonath Rao of having received the money, without the corroboration afforded by Juwere Nagjee's account, and also by the circumstance of the Mohsulee sepoy Esoo, who was, when off duty, I find, much with Rugonath Rao, as superintendent of mohsuls, having on one occasion been sent by the Bawa to his village about this money.

5. Under all the circumstances now reported, however, I deemed it my duty before leaving Rajcote for the districts to suspend the head accountant from the performance of his duties pending the decision of Government on the proceedings now transmitted. A few days afterwards I received an application from him to be permitted to proceed on a month's leave to the Presidency, in order that he might make some representation of the case to Government in person. As I could not with propriety grant him leave till a decision was received, I informed him that anything he might have to communicate to Government would doubtless be required in writing, and that I should be happy to forward with the proceedings in his case any further representation he might have to make. In reply, he sent me a letter, of which a copy is transmitted accordingly.

6. Rugonath Rao complains of the manner in which the case was conducted by my assistant, Captain Barr, and of the enmity of that officer's sheristedar, whom he accuses of having added one or two things to some of the depositions taken by him. A reference to that officer's report, however, and to the proceedings sent with it, will doubtless satisfy Government that he took every possible care in the investigation of the case, and that the accusations against his sheristedar of having prompted one of the witnesses, and added to the statements of others, are altogether unfounded. The occasional detention of witnesses to prevent their communicating with each other is absolutely necessary, in order to get at the truth at all, and as regards the cross-examination of the different witnesses, the fullest opportunity was given to Rugonath to ask any questions he wished over and over again.

7. Rugonath Rao also lays great stress on Juwere Nagjee's accounts not being kept like those of other sowcars. He has only one book, called a buetha or tham khata, or running account, which is not unusual with petty sowcars of his class, and such as it is, the only objections that can I think be pointed out to any of the entries under discussion are fully scrutinized in the report of the punchayet I got carefully to examine them.

8. I much regret to have to offer such an unfavourable opinion as the result of my investigation of these accusations against the head accountant of this agency, who is superior in his own department of accounts, in almost every respect, to any man I have ever had to do with. He is, however, I greatly fear, much given to intriguing, against which I warned him seriously two or three years ago, when I first found that he was disposed to lend himself to such practices. I doubt not he now deeply regrets that he did not attend to my advice, as in the present case he seems to have found some of his former friends in this way to be the first to come forward against him. The original petitions in Bhutoor's name are herewith returned, as requested in the concluding para. of the Chief Secretary's letter of the 20th November last.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Lang*,
Political Agent.

Kattywar Political Agency,
Camp Heeracote, 10 April 1852.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

To the Political Agent.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to submit for your consideration the translation of a mass of evidence, taken partly by yourself and partly by me, bearing upon certain accusations preferred by an individual named Butoor against Rugonath-rao Ragoba, the head accountant of this agency, which are contained in the petition No. 1, accompanying my letter, and which may be resolved into the following charges:—

1st. That Rugoonath was the writer of a petition to Government, forwarded originally in Butoor's name, and afterwards with his feigned signature, although he had neither caused the one to be written, nor knew anything of the signature of the other.

2d. That Rugoonath received a bribe of a gold chain and 200 rupees in money from a widow, named Udee, for assisting in effecting her purpose of disinheriting a nephew whom she had adopted and afterwards cast off.

3d. That Rugoonath received a bribe of 400 rupees from a man named Sewadass, a Bawa, who complained of oppression experienced from the Joonaghur authorities, and whose case he promised to bring to a satisfactory conclusion, by exerting his influence with the authorities in question, and by affording advice and assistance in submitting it to the notice of the Political Agent.

It has been found impossible to entertain the first of these charges, as it is unsupported by any positive evidence, and because the only grounds on which it rests, namely, the style of composition of the petition, the nature of the ink used in making emendations, and the description of marks employed where omitted words have afterwards been inserted, form, at best, but cause for suspicion, and could not establish guilt. The investigation has, therefore, necessarily been confined to the two last charges.

The witnesses examined regarding the delivery of the chain are, woman Udee; her nephew, Shinkur; Sonee Puma, and Sonee Mar; and as the depositions given by the first-named individual vary most materially on the different occasions on which they have been taken, it will be necessary to describe the circumstances under which she was originally questioned, to account for the discrepancies into which she then fell, and to enable an opinion to be formed of the cause of the subsequent contradictions and retractations which are apparent in her statements.

After Rugoonath had given his deposition, and delivered over to me the chain which he was accused of having received as a bribe, he and his brother, who had in the meantime joined him, were requested to remain in the room, and a messenger was at once despatched to summon the woman Udee from the town, that her evidence might be taken before she had an opportunity of communication with other parties. She commenced by saying that the chain made for her late husband was in her house, but on being unexpectedly called upon to produce it, she was obliged to declare that she had lent it to Rughoonath's wife, and after finishing her deposition, to which two witnesses appended their names, when read over in their presence, to the deponent, she was permitted to return to her home. When examined again the following day and on several subsequent occasions, she retracted her first statement, and ascribed it to the prompting of the mehta who recorded it; but I have it in my power distinctly to declare that the mehta had no opportunity to prompt her, had he entertained the wish to do so; and it was this very retractation, and her subsequent reluctant and very contradictory evidence, which excited serious suspicions against Rugoonath in my mind. These suspicions with regard to his having received the chain, remain unshaken; for after weighing the evidence given by the nephew, Shinkur, and Sonee Pumma, and contrasting it with the very unsatisfactory and conflicting statements made by Udee, and with the testimony of Sonee Mâr, who deposes ambiguously to having weighed the chain when in the possession of Rugonath, on his return from Bombay, without being able to state whether it was when that person originally came to Rajcote to enter on his duties, or after he came back from a subsequent visit on leave to Bombay, I am of opinion that there can be no moral doubt of the truth of this portion of the accusation, although perhaps there may not be proofs sufficiently clear and conclusive to convict legally.

Udee

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

Udee denies having given the 200 rupees to Rugonath; but here again I think that her denial must be viewed with the greatest suspicion, as although she states that she raised the money by placing certain ornaments in pawn, to defray the expense of sending her daughter to her husband's house, there is nothing to show that it was so expended, and her explanation of the mode in which the ornaments were afterwards released from pawn and disposed of, is quite impossible of belief.

Johir Nagjee deposes to having paid the 200 rupees to Rugonath on her account, and to having received the amount, when the ornaments were redeemed, with interest, from that individual, minus the sum of 44 korees and 5 annas, for which he stood responsible, and with which he was debited in his separate account. In corroboration of this statement Johir Nagjee has produced his accounts with Modee Hurruckchund Progjee, from whom the 200 rupees were procured for payment to Rugonath in the first instance; with Bhut Nuthoo, from whose widow the ornaments requisite to raise the money were received in pawn; with the same person when the money was repaid and the ornaments redeemed, and with Rugonath himself, when 44 korees and 5 annas, wanting to complete the amount necessary for their redemption, were debited to him. The objections noted by the karbarees of Bhownuggur and Morewee, to whom these accounts were submitted for examination, some of which were afterwards explained by Johir Nagjee, are not, in my opinion, of such a nature as to vitiate their genuineness, but induce me rather to believe that the transactions recorded did really occur, and that Johir Nagjee and Rugonath were at the time on terms of mutual understanding, although the former was careful to retain proof against the latter, in case circumstances should ever render it his interest or wish to produce it. It is found, indeed, in all cases of this kind, for which any proofs are forthcoming, and which are not evidently set up through reckless malice, that the informer is an old associate in guilt, and that most of the witnesses produced were at least consenting parties, if not participators. With me a great subject of regret, to which the prosecution of charges, like the present ones, to conviction, gives rise is, that those who are thus notoriously guilty, generally escape all share of the punishment which necessarily falls upon the accused, whom they have informed against and successfully prosecuted for selfish ends.

The investigation of the charge of having received 400 rupees from Bawa Sewadass, conducted chiefly before you, has been long and careful. The greatest difficulty with regard to it was the date of the hondee procured from Jetpoor, and the date of cashing it entered in the books of Sukureechund Sunkurdass, and also the date specified in the books of Johir Nagjee, as that on which he had received a portion of the amount realized upon it, but all doubts on this point have, I think, been satisfactorily cleared up on inquiry, and the punchayet, to whom the matter was referred, have reconciled the apparent anomaly, so that on a review of the evidence in this accusation, no doubt can exist, I believe, of its having been sufficiently established.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Assistant Political Agent.

Hadatorda, 26 March 1852.

No. 1.

PETITION of *Bhutoor Weeneram* to Captain *Barr,* Second Assistant Political Agent.

A PETITION in my name was sent to the Bombay Sirkar, which was sent to me, as it did not bear my signature. I knew nothing of the petition in question, and after commencing an inquiry to discover the writer of it, I made it over to Captain Aston; but as there existed an intimacy between Saleh Jemadar and Rugonath, I was in the habit of repairing to the house of the latter on business concerning the former, in the course of which I mentioned the affair of the petition to Rugonath, who said that my name had been lowered at all events, and that I should have returned the petition with my signature. I answered that I knew nothing of the petition, and that it was therefore impossible for me to sign it, and that in addition to this, I had given it up to Captain Aston. Rugonath then said, "Write another petition, acknowledging the former one, and resting your previous denial on the fact of its having been made public, by which means you will gain a name." I answered, "Why should I write a complaint of matters regarding which I am quite ignorant?" After this conversation between us I returned to my own house. Subsequently the same writer sent another

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

another petition with a signature purporting to be mine, upon which I received an order from Government, regarding which I made a representation to the above named Sahib, (Captain Aston). When information reached me that the second petition had got to the hands of Government, I felt persuaded that Rugonath had written it, and I was strengthened in this conviction by what he had said to me regarding the former one; thinking therefore that if I remained silent he would continue in the same course and ruin me, I make known to the Sirkar that the writer of the petition in question is Rugonath Ragoba, a clerk in the service of Government; in support of which assertion, the following are my proofs: The style and wording are those employed by Dekkanees* and such as a person who had resided in Bombay and was acquainted with the English language would make use of; Rugonath comes under this description. In some parts of the petition words have been erased and added, and both erasures and additions have been made with English ink, and the marks inserted where words have been afterwards filled in are such as English writers use and not such as are habitually employed by people of this province under similar circumstances; phooadee thus × by English writers and hunspud thus ✓ by natives of this province. The corrections are in Rugonath Rao's handwriting, which can be recognised by the whole kutchery, although no one declares his opinion, because the Sircar (meaning the Political Agent and his assistants) respecting his position, do not put the question. I therefore beg that the dufterdar, sheristedars, &c., &c., six or seven individuals of standing, being put upon oath and formed into a committee, in the presence of the Political Agent, of Captain Aston, and yourself, may be made acquainted with the purport of this petition, when after examination of the petition in question all will be clearly made known. In addition to this, Rugonath receives bribes, regarding which I now send a few proofs, as below.

* Persons educated in the Dekkan.

1st. Bhut Nuthoo, formerly an inhabitant of Rajcote, died; his widow, Udee, adopted his younger brother's son, Shunkur, to be enabled to disinherit whom she procured the good offices of Rugonath by giving bribes; she gave a gold chain, which he is now in the constant habit of wearing round his neck; the weight of this is 18¾ gudeeanas and 1½ wals, and it was made by a Rajcote Sonee named Puma Puchan; the entry regarding it will be found in the 217th page of Puma's chopra, dated St. 1895. Should premature investigation be instituted, he will conceal the chain, and proof will be impossible. It will be therefore necessary to question him abruptly and at once to take possession of the chain. The same woman had arranged to pay him 260 rupees in money, but not having the amount ready, she pawned to Johir Nagjee a gold ornament, called tant, weighing 7½ pudeeanas; a gold ornament, called vele, weighing 3½ gudeeanas; a gold ornament, called madulia, weighing 7 gudeeanas, and a pair of silver ornaments, called kambee, weighing 210 gudeeanas, and raised the required sum, which Johir Nagjee got for her from Hurruckchund Pragjee, and it was paid to Rugonath. The entry of this, with the name of Rugonath as the recipient, will be found in the 38th page of Johir Nagjee's chopra for St. 1905. After receiving the above bribes in St. 1905, he sent his servant Dadha, an inhabitant of Wancaneer, to call Shunker and his father Gungaram, who was then living, and warned them not to take any steps regarding the property which Udee had retained in her possession, or to mention the subject to any one. Gungaram is since dead, but Shunker is alive, living separate from Udee, who will not permit him to reside with her; Rugonath moreover spoke in her favour to the Rajcote Durbar authorities.

2d. Joonaghur had interefered with the possessions of Bawa Sewadass Shookram, who having come to Rajcote to complain, fell in with Rugonath; Rugonath promised to forward his views and to cause the Joonaghur authorities to come to a satisfactory amicable settlement, after his having done which, the above named Bawa caused a hoondee for 400 rupees to be written by Dosee Roopsee Maljee of Jetpoor, on Paruck Lukoo Sunkerdass of Rajcote, which he sent to Rugonath; Rugonath gave the hoondee to Parek Mungulgee Goa, who cashed it. The entry regarding this hoondee will be found in the 232d page of Parek Lukoo Sunkurdass' chopra for St. 1907. In this way he has received three bribes, and it is his custom to give trouble to Government by writing petitions in other people's names. I have taken much pains to convict him, and it rests with the Sircar to prosecute him.

17 December 1851. (signed) *Turwaree Bhutoor.*

P. S.—The daughter of the above named Udee is married in Gowreedhur, and when her husband and father-in-law came to take her home she was unwilling to go, when Rughonath called the husband and father-in-law, and also Shunkur and his father Gungaram, and with threats prevented them from causing her removal to her husband's house; the reason of this will become known if the Sirkar chooses to inquire.

Dated as above.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Actg. 1st Asst. Pol. Agent.

No. 2.

Rugonath Ragoba, Hindoo; caste, Purboo; age, about 32 years; Resident of Rajcote; examined by Captain Barr, 2d Assistant Political Agent.

Question. BHUTOOR states that Udee, the widow of Bhut Nuthoo, has given you a gold chain, which you are now wearing; where, when, and how did this chain come into your possession?

possession?—*Answer.* Bhut Nathoo's widow did not give me the chain, I brought it with me when I came from Bombay, and it was given to me on my marriage by my sister's husband, Maroba Sudasew, about 10 or 12 years ago; it was given to me in the presence of many persons of my own caste. Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

Where was the chain made?—In Bombay.

What is the name of the sonee who made it, and of how many tolas is the weight?—I do not recollect the name of the sonee; nor do I remember the weight, but it was weighed once at Rajcote by Mor Sonee, although I forget what the weight was then found to be.

Do you know a woman of the name Udee, and are you aware that she adopted a son?—The woman in question is a Brahminee, whom I know from having seen her when she visited the female members of my family; she received charity from me on one or two occasions, but I know nothing of her having adopted a son.

26 December 1851.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, Actg. 1st A. P. A.

No. 3.

Udee, Widow of But Nuthoo, Hindoo; caste, Brahmin; age, about 40 years; Inhabitant of Rajcote; in presence of Captain Barr, Second Assistant Political Agent, deposes:

Question. Did you have a chain made by Sonee Puma of Rajcote, and if so, when was it made, and where is it now?—*Answer.*] I do not know; my husband must have known whether it was got from Sonee Puma or not; the chain is in my house.

Your late husband's account is probably in Sonee Pumma's chopra, and as it will be necessary to examine the entry referring to this chain, and to compare them, you must produce the chain, and tell what you know to be the truth on the subject?—I sold the chain some time ago through the agency of my brother.

Deponent next answers, that on the occasion of Rugonath's proceeding to Bombay to attend a marriage, his wife borrowed the chain, and that it is still in her possession; I have several times been requested to take it back, and often promised to do so.

Is the chain now shown you yours or not?—This chain is like mine, but my chain had no lutkumo (ornament of stone) attached to it, and when made by Sonee Pumma it weighed 19 gudeeanas. When I lent it to Rugonath's wife I had it weighed, and the weight was then 18 gudeeanas.

Did you ever place any ornaments in pawn with Johir Nagjee, and if so, for how much money, and for what purpose?—Last year I pawned ornaments, and raised 200 rupees, which I required for the expense of sending my daughter to her husband's house; when I collected certain dues I repaid the 200 rupees and released the ornaments from pawn.

Was there ever any dispute between you and Bhut Gungaram regarding an adoption?—Yes, there was, and it was settled through Baee Naneeba (the Rajcote Thacor's mother); but I have not yet obtained my rights.

When the chain was lent what sonee weighed it?—I do not recollect.

Before you lent the chain on the occasion referred to, did you ever lend it into Rugonath's family on any other occasion?—No.

Did you ever give Rugonath 200 rupees?—No.

How many rupees did you pay when you released the ornaments from pawn?—Two hundred rupees; Johir Nagjee forgave the interest from motives of friendship.

When you pawned the ornaments you had no money; when you released them where did you get the money from?—I got the money when dues were paid in to me; it was given to Johir through a third person.

Afterwards deponent states, I gave the money myself.

How did you expend the 200 rupees you raised?—I paid different debts with them.

By *Rugonath.*] Did Keta Worah or Johir Nagjee tell you, that if you brought a false charge against me you would obtain your Giras rights?—Kheta Worah once asked me whether I had given Rugonath any valuables, when I admitted that I had lent his wife a chain, which was at the time at his house; I told him that I had often been asked to take it away, but had left it there through motives of friendship.

Did I ever give you charity?—Yes, very often.

By Captain *Barr.*] Who were your creditors?—They were foreign merchants, for which reason I do not know their names.

Is the chopra you have now produced yours?—Yes.

26 December 1851.

Witnesses to deposition:

Doolubjee.
Nursing Persad.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, A. P. A.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

Udee re-examined by Captain Barr on the 27th December 1851.

Question. What ornaments did you place in pawn with Johir Nagjee?—*Answer.* A tant, a vele, and a madulea, all of gold, and a pair of silver kambees.

As you released these ornaments, where are they now?—About a month after I released these ornaments I sold them, together with the gold chain my late husband had had made by Pumma Sonee, to four foreign travelling merchants, whose names I do not know, through the agency of my brother Buwan, who is since dead.

For how much did you sell them?—The chain for 400 koorys, the vele for 560 koorys, the pair of silver kambees for 300 koorys, and the tant for 135 koorys, and the madulia for 150 koorys.

What did you do with these korees?—Three hundred korees were expended in household expenses; 1,000 korees were given to the Nuggur Laljee Maharaj, when he visited Rajcote, and when this Maharaj paid a visit of ceremony to the garden outside the town, I presented him with 200 korees. The Laljee Maharaj came to Rajcote about 15 or 20 days after I had sold the ornaments.

How long after you released the ornaments from Johir Nagjee did you sell them?—One month afterwards.

You pawned the ornaments to satisfy your creditors; when you released them you had no debts; then why was it necessary for you to sell them?—I wanted the money for the current expenses of my house.

Why did you not sell them in the first instance, when you required money, instead of pawning them?—I did not think of selling them then.

By *Bhutoor.*] Where were you last night till 10 o'clock?—When I went home from the bungalow I lighted my lights, and afterwards, about 8, 9, or 10 o'clock, I went to the Durbar, where I remained about half an hour, when I returned to my house for the night.

Where did you leave the key of your house?—When I went to the Durbar I left the key with Chotee, wife of Mehta Wujeshunker, and on my return I got it from his daughter.

By Captain *Barr.*] For what purpose did you go to the Durbar?—For no particular purpose, merely to sit there a while; Baee Naneeba, &c., were seated there at the time.

In your chopra, and in that of Pumma Sonee, the price of the chain is entered as 520 korees 8 annas, and it is stated that at any time when it might be returned, its weight in good gold would be given; why then did you sell it for 400 korees instead of returning it to Pumma?—I was afraid that my nephew (whom she had adopted and then cast off) might raise a dispute, for which reason I avoided giving it to Pumma. [Spontaneously the deponent then states, 50 or 60 korees were expended on the occasion of feasting a number of Brahmins at a shrine of Somnath Mahdeo, near the suburbs of Rajcote.]

When you came to the bungalow yesterday where did you leave the key of your house?—I do not remember where I left the key when I came to the bungalow, or from whence I got it on my return home yesterday evening; I went straight to my house from the bungalow.

It appears from the 38th page of Johir Nagjee's chopra for Sumvut 1907, containing your account, that Rugonath released the ornaments by payment of 225 rupees; how is this?—I gave the rupees to Rugonath and he gave them to Johir.

In your account in Johir's chopra, it is stated that the ornaments were made over to Rugonath; how is this?—Johir gave the ornaments to Rugonath, who, the same day, immediately made them over to me.

Yesterday you said you had lent the gold chain to Rugonath's wife, and to-day you say you sold it to a sonee; how is this to be explained?—I was confused, and Naka Mehta (the karkoon who took the deposition in Captain Barr's presence) told me to say that I had given the chain to Rugonath, but what I depose to-day is the truth.

27 December 1851.

Witnesses to deposition:

Doolubjee Moolshunker.
Narsing Persad.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, A. P. A.

Udee examined by Major Lang, Political Agent, on the date above-mentioned, 27 December 1851.

Question by *Rugonath.*] You have stated that you gave the money for the release of your ornaments to me, and that I gave it to Johir Nagjee; did you give the money to me?—*Answer.* I got the money from Johir (when the ornaments were pawned) and repaid it through you.

Why did you mention my name above?—I am confused.

Why are you confused?—When my deposition was first taken, Naka Mehta told me to take Rugonath's name, and this is the reason I have mentioned it.

By Political Agent.] The list of articles in your possession, given in by Shinkur, has been read to you; where are they?—The ornaments I have deposed to having sold to travelling sonees are in this list, and the remainder I disposed of as follows: a gold jal, given

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

given to my daughter; a gold okoto, is in pawn with Oja Bawa for 150 korees; another okoto was broken up and made into four vedlas, which are in pawn with Neemchund for 114 korees; a jurmur, out of which a paro, which I gave my daughter; a pair of lungurs and a pandic, given to Gosainjee Maharaj; a kimtasree, given to my daughter; a phol, given to my daughter; a pair of silver kudlas, are worn by Shunkur's wife; a pair of silver akotas were broken up and made into kudlas for my granddaughter; a hanslee, given to the same person.

27 December 1851.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, A. P. A.

Udee re-examined by Major Lang, Political Agent, on the 3d January 1852.

Question. Bhutoor had said that after you gave your first deposition on the 26th December last, you held communication with Rugonathrao, to prevent which in future, and to give you time for consideration, the Durbar was directed to place a sepaee to prevent any one from communicating with you for six days, and you are now called that you may speak the truth without being in any way confused or frightened; speak, therefore, the truth to-day, as you will not have another opportunity of stating anything different from what you are about to state?—*Answer.* It is true that I sold the ornaments to travelling sonees through the agency of my father and brother. On the first day I deposed to having lent the gold chain to Rugonath's wife, because Naka Mehta told me to do so; but this is not true.

Captain Barr was present at the time; how then could Naka Mehta have prompted you?—When the sahib questioned me I began to be confused; upon which he stood at a little distance, and Naka Mehta took advantage of the opportunity to prompt me. If I speak false in this, I am ready to swear by Shree Balkrusnajee.

You say that you sold the gold chain and other ornaments to travelling sonees through the agency of your father and brother; but it is known that your brother died two or three years ago, and your father about one or one and a half, whilst you released the ornaments from pawn about 10 months ago; how then could your father and brother have been present when you sold them?—My brother died about 15 months ago, and my father about 12; they were both present when I sold the ornaments.

Memorandum.—From the entry in Johir's chopra, it appears that the ornaments were released from pawn 12 months ago.

3 January 1852.

Witnesses to deposition:

Doolubjee Moolshunker.
Nursing Persad.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, 2d A. P. A.

No. 4.

Pumma Puchan; caste, Sonee; profession, Goldsmith; age, about 48 years; Inhabitant of Rajcote; before Captain Barr; deposes:

Question. Is the chain now shown you of your manufacture; if so, when did you make it for Bhut Nuthoo?—*Answer.* It looks like a chain of my manufacture, and Nuthoo Bhut's account with me is in my chopra.

Did you ever weigh the chain after you made it for Nuthoo Bhut?—No.

Was Nuthoo Bhut's account which you produce written immediately after the chain was made, and if so, in whose handwriting is it?—It was written when the chain was made; I do not recollect whose handwriting it is in.

How much would gold ornaments lose in weight in a year?—This depends upon the degree of wear they are subjected to.

26 December 1851.

Witnesses to deposition:

Doolubjee Moolshunker.
Nursing Persad.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, 2d A. P. A.

Extract from Puma Sonee's chopra for Sumt. 1895, page 217; account with Bhut Nuthoo Maidur:—

"Ks. 523. 8. One gold chain complete, with chugda (pendant), weight 18 ¾ gudeeanas, 1 ½ wals. On return of chain, its weight in good gold to be given. Sold at the rate of 27 rupees 10 annas per gudeeana."

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, 2d A. P. A.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

No. 5.

Shinkur Gungaram, Hindoo; caste, Bramin; profession, Religious Mendicant; age, 24 years; Inhabitant of Rajcote; before Captain Barr; deposes:

Question. To whom does the gold chain now shown belong?—*Answer.* On the death of Bhut Nuthoo his widow adopted me, and I lived with her for five or six years, on which account I recognise this chain as her property; but the lutkumo (stone ornament) attached to it is not the same as it originally had, which was green (emerald).

When were you aware that this chain had been given to Rugonath?—Two or three years ago, when it was given.

Why did you not complain?—Rugonath Rao's servant, Ladha, an inhabitant of Wankaneer, called me to his master's house, who threatened me with gaol, and the disgrace of being paraded on a donkey, should I ever complain; I kept silence through fear.

Did any one on the part of the Rajcote Durbar speak to you on this subject, and if so, who?—Laljee Parek told me to act in accordance with Rugonath Rao's directions, otherwise he (Laljee) would not be to blame if any ill befel me.

26 December 1851.

Witnesses to deposition:

Doolubjee Mool Shunkur.
Nursing Persad.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, 2d A. P. A.

No. 6.

Laljee Petamber, Hindoo; Banyan; age, about 50 years; in the service of the Rajcote Durbar; Inhabitant of Rajcote; in the presence of Captain Barr; deposes:

Question. Was there any dispute about adoption between Udee, widow of Bhut Nuthoo, and Shinkur, and if so, state the particulars?—*Answer.* Yes, there was a dispute, which was settled by two chosen arbitrators.

Who were the two arbitrators?—They were of their caste, but I do not know their names.

Was Shinkur satisfied with the settlement, and of what nature was it?—I do not know what the settlement was; but Shinkur was not satisfied.

Did Rugonath Rao give any advice in this matter?—About two or three years ago Rugonath mentioned that a dispute was pending between Shinkur and Udee, and asked me to be careful of the interests of the latter, as she was a poor woman.

Did you give any injunction to Shunkur in this matter?—No.

26 December 1851.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, 2d A. P. A.

No. 7.

Mor Hurjee, Hindoo; caste, Sonee; profession, Goldsmith; age, about 48 years; Inhabitant of Rajcote; deposes, in the presence of Captain Barr:

Question. Did you ever weigh any ornament at Rugonath's house, and if so, state what and when?—*Answer.* When he came from Bombay, when, I forget, I weighed a gold chain at his house, the weight of which was gudeeanas 18 or 19, and Rugonath asked the value of the chain; I told him it was worth about 26 or 27 corees per gudeeana.

When, after he came from Bombay did you weigh the chain?—Two or three days after he arrived at Rajcote.

Why was it weighed?—I do not know; he told me to value it.

Would you recognise the chain if you saw it again?—I could not possibly recognise it, because I was not the maker.

27 December 1851.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, 2d A. P. A.

Mor Hurjee re-examined by Major Lang, on the 9th of February 1852.

Question. How long is it since Rugonath returned from Bombay on the occasion after which you weighed the chain?—*Answer.* I weighed it two or four years ago, not now; I do not recollect exactly the year or the time of year I weighed it.

Is the chain shown you the one you weighed?—This is the chain I weighed. When I weighed it there was no lutkuneo (suspended ornament) attached; I fastened it on about 15 days or a month after I weighed the chain. It was in the cold season before the holee that I weighed the chain, and Rugonath gave me the lutkuneo to fasten on.

By

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

By *Rugonath.*] There is cold weather both before the holee and after the dewalee; state positively which of the two seasons it was when you weighed the chain, and, if you recollect, say whether you attached the lutkuneo on the day you weighed the chain, or on the following day?—I can only recollect that I did not attach the lutkuneo on the day I weighed the chain, but that I did so some days after.

By Major *Lang.*] Of what country is the fashion of this chain?—Chains of this fashion are made at Bombay as well as here, and I cannot tell to which place the fashion of it belongs. The pendant is such as was formerly used at Bombay, afterwards at Ahmedabad, and came into fashion here after the camp was established.

9 February 1852.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, 2d A. P. A.

No. 8.

Ros Kam, 26 December 1851.—During the course of investigation instituted to-day in consequence of a charge of bribery preferred against Rugonath Rao, the agency head accountant, by Bhutoor Veeneeram, after taking the deposition of the former, he is asked for the gold chain in question, which he produces, and on being weighed, it is found to be of 18 gudeeanas. The chain is for the present retained.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, 2d A. P. A.

No. 9.

Johir Nagjee, Hindoo; Caste, Banyan; a Mehta; Age, about 46 years; Inhabitant of Rajcote; deposes before Captain Barr.

Question. Did you ever receive ornaments belonging to woman Udee in pawn; and if so, when did you do so, and how much money did you advance?—*Answer.* In Sumvut 1905, I received ornaments belonging to her in pawn, and advanced her 200 rupees, which she said she had taken up to give Rugenath. The account of this transaction is in my chopra.

Did the woman Udee release the ornaments in question?—Rugenath Rao released them by payment of 225 rupees, and I made over the ornaments to Udee, in presence of Rugenath Rao.

When did Rugenath Rao release the ornaments?—About 12 months ago; the date is in my chopra.

When the ornaments were placed in pawn, did Udee alone take them to you, or was she accompanied by Rugenath Rao?—She brought them unaccompanied.

Was Udee alone when the ornaments were released, or was she accompanied by Rugenath Rao?—Udee came to my house, and told me to receive the money, and give her back her ornaments; I said, Very good, and took the ornaments to her house; she then said, "Come with me, and I will cause the rupees to be given to you;" upon which I accompanied her to Rugonath's house, where I found him and his brother Nanabhaee. The time I went there was about eight o'clock, but I forget the exact date.

Did Udee tell you why she wished to pay the 200 rupees you advanced to Rugonath Rao?—No, she did not tell me why she wished to give the money to Rugonath.

By *Rugonath.*] Are Kheta Worah and Wukutchund related to you; and did they prompt you to speak thus?—They are not related to me, and did not prompt me.

You are in the habit of sometimes coming to my house; on these occasions have you found me alone, or with other persons in my company?—Sometimes alone, and sometimes in the company of others.

Are there money transactions between Wukutchund and Sonee Puma, or not?—Yes, there are.

Captain *Barr.*] Why did Udee mention to you that she was about to pay money to Rugonath Rao?—She asked me to advance money to give to Rugonath, upon which I did advance it.

Before these ornaments were placed in pawn with you, were there any money transactions between you and Udee?—No; but I rented a house from her.

You at first deposed that you had given the 200 rupees to Udee, to pay to Rugonath, and then that you had given the money in question to Rugonath yourself, at the desire of Udee: explain the discrepancy?—Udee had arranged to get the money from me; but as it was not in the house at the time, I therefore left her there, and went to fetch it from Madee Hurrukchund's shop; having done which, I paid it over to her. She said it was for Rugonath, and requested me to pay it to him, which I accordingly did.

Why should Udee have asked you to pay the money to Rugonath, instead of taking it to him herself?—She said she did not wish to go to his house at that particular time, and asked me to go, and I complied with her request; I went to Rugonath's about 8 a. m.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

Were you and Udee acquainted?—Yes; I knew her from having rented a house which was her property.

Was Rugonath alone when you paid the money to him, or how?—Rugonath and his brother Nanabhaee were together.

By *Rugonath Rao.*] Did you ever mention to any one that Bhutoor Kheta Worah and Poput had joined to bring false charges against me?—No.

Did you ask Udee why she was giving me money, and when the money was repaid, to release the ornaments; did you ask why I paid it to you?—No, why should I ask.

Udee lives near the house of Lussa Worah, brother of Kheta Worah; do you think she is likely to speak as Kheta Worah dictates, or not?—How can I tell; it is true that Kheta Worah formerly lived near to Udee's house, and was in the habit of visiting her.

26 December 1851.

Witnesses to deposition:
Doolubjee Modsunkur.
Nursing Persad.

(True translation.)
(signed) *J. T. Barr,* 2d A. P. A.

Johir Nagjee re-examined by Major Lang.

Question. Udee says that she released the ornaments, on payment of 200 rupees, and you forgave the interest on the loan through friendly motives. Is this the case?—*Answer.* I received 225 rupees, principal and interest.

Udee is here called, and confronted with Johir Nagjee, when she acknowledges that she paid some interest, but professes not to recollect how much, and declares that a portion of the interest was forgiven through motives of friendship.

9 February 1852.

(True translation.)
(signed) *J. T. Barr,* 2d A. P. A.

Udee re-examined by Major Lang.

Question. It appears from an examination of Johir Nagjee's chopra, that 200 rupees were procured from Hurrechund, as cash on a hoondee in Sumvut 1905, and that the money was paid to Rugonath Rao; and in the account with your late husband, contained in the chopra for the same year, where the 200 rupees are debited, the name of the person to whom they were paid is erased; and when the money was repaid, it appears in the account of the transaction in the same person's chopra for Sumvut 1907, that Rugonath Rao repaid the money. Explain this?—*Answer.* I know nothing about this.

By *Bhutoor.*] You have said that you gave a portion of the money realised by the sale of your ornaments to the Gosainjee Maharaj; but he went direct from Nuggur to Hulwud, in the month of Magshur, Sumvut 1907, and from thence to Mutoora; speak the truth on the subject now?—I gave the money to the maharaj; I do not know whether the maharaj came to Rajcote before or after I sold the ornaments.

Where was the maharaj at the time?—He was at Rajcote.

9 February 1852.

(True translation.)
(signed) *J. T. Barr,* 2d A. P. A.

Johir Nagjee questioned by Rugonath Rao.

Question. Did you go to Kheta Worah's house last night; and if so for what purpose?—*Answer.* I did not go to Kheta Worah's house last night, nor did I meet him.

Pragjee Modee had a shop in Rajcote; was he the sole proprietor, or had any one else a share in it?—I have heard that Rooderjee Nundeeram had a share.

You have entered in my name, in Nuthoo Bhut's account, in your chopra; did you do so of yourself, or were you prompted; and will you swear that you entered it of yourself, without being taught to do so?—I entered your name unprompted, and will take an oath to that effect if the Sirkar desires it.

11 February 1852.

(True translation.)
(signed) *J. T. Barr,* 2d A. P. A.

Memorandum.—An oath is administered to Johir Nagjee, who swears to the truth of all the answers he has given to Rugonath's queries on the 11th February 1852.

Johir Nagjee again questioned by Rugonath Rao, on the 9th March 1852.

Question. What relation to you is Laljee Pareek?—*Answer.* He is related by birth distantly to my wife's father.

What

What relationship exists between Laljee Pareek and Kheta Worah?—Laljee Pareek's moher was peetrai bhen to Kheta Worah's father. Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

Have you any private money transactions with Anutjee (the Joonaghur karbaree), and have you any money transactions with inhabitants of villages held by him in farm?—No.

9 March 1852.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, 2d A. P. A.

(A.)

Copy of the Account with Moodee Hurruckchund Pragjee, in the 38th page of Johir Nagjee's Chopra for Sumvut 1905.

Received:	Paid:
200 Company's rupees, equal to 686 korees, at the rate of 100 rupees for 343 korees, in exchange for a hoondee on Morevee; the money paid to Rugonath Rao, and debited to Nuthoo Bhut's account.	A hoondee for 686 korees on Jewan Purshotum, of Morevee, written by myself, payable one day after sight, dated 9th Chuetur Wud.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, 2d A. P. A.

(B.)

Copy of the Account of Bhut Nuthoo Midur, in the 40th page of Johir Nagjee's Chopra for Sumvut 1905.

686 Korees, or 200 rupees, Company's currency, paid over in ready money to (*name erased*) 9 Chuetur wud, at the rate of 100 rupees for 343 korees, in exchange for a hoondee on Morevee; the money having been procured from Moodee Hurruckchund Pragjee, advanced on the security of the following ornaments, at the rate of 12 annas per 100 rupees per mensem:

One gold tamb, weight about 7 ½ gudeeanas; one gold vele, weight about 3 ½ gudeeanas; one gold maduleea, weight about 7 gudeeanas; one pair silver kambees, weight about 210 gudeeanas.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, 2d A. P. A.

(C.)

Copy of the Account of Nuthoo Bhut, in the 38th page of Johir Nagjee's Chopra for Sumvut 1907.

Received:	
Ks. 755. 7., equal to 225 rupees, ready money, from Raja Shree Rugonath Rao, from a sum of 400 rupees received through Pareek Munguljee Goa, 13th of Pash Wud; 100 rupees for every *Ks.* 335. 12.	686 Korees, balance due; *Ks.* 113. 12., interest on 686 korees for 22 months and four days, up to 13th of Pash wud, Sumvut 1907.
Ks. a. p. 738 10 6 equal to 220 rupees, paid to Worah Kursingjee Gela. 16 12 6 carried to account.	
755 7 – Total.	
The ornaments pawned for the 200 rupees, returned to Raja Shree; 44 korees and 5 annas, still due, debited to Rugonath Rao.	
Total, *Ks.* 799. 12.	Total, *Ks.* 799. 12.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, 2d A. P. A.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

(D.)

COPY of the Account of Raja Shree Rugonath Rao Ragoba, in the 40th page of Johir Nagjee's Chopra for Sumvut 1907.

Ks. 75	1	balance due from old account, in page 38.
Ks. 44	5	for which he held himself answerable on the part of Bhut Nuthoo.
Total - - *Ks.* 119	5	

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, 2d A. P. A.

No. 10.

ANSWER of a Punchayet, composed of *Oja Gowree Shunkur*, Karbaree of Bhownuggur, and *Mehta Govindjee Umbaram*, Karbharee of Morevee, to whom Johir Nagjee's Chopra for Sumvut 1905, containing entries having reference to the charges preferred against Rugonath Rao, were shown for inspection and report:—

IT appears to us that on the credit side of the account of Modee Hurruckchund Pragjee, page 38 of Johir Nagjee's chopra, Sumvut 1905 (translation, letter A.) the words "Bhut Nuthoo" were written some time subsequent to the making of the remainder of the entry, because the letters composing the name are separated, and because the space within which it is inserted is confined; but we know no reason for writing this name subsequently. It is not according to usage to write, as is done, in the same entry, "Paid to Rugonath, and debited to Nuthoo Bhut," as it should have been stated that the amount had been paid to Rugonath on account of Bhut Nuthoo. In the 46th page of the same chopra, in the account of Bhut Nuthoo, 686 korees are debited, and in the second line an erasure has been made, but we can read that it contained the words, "Raja Shree, to be paid to." We cannot understand why the erasure should have been made.

ANSWER of the same Persons on Johir Nagjee's Chopra for St. 1907, shown to them for Report.

It appears to us that in the 38th page (translation, letter B.) that the ink used for recording the *Rs.* 44. 5., debited to Rugonath, and the *Rs.* 113. 12., interest charged, is thinner than that with which the rest of the entry has been made, and that the letters are smaller, and written with a different pen, but that the hand-writing is the same as that of the rest of account; from which we would conclude that so much had been written subsequently to the remainder. The 220 rupees entered as paid to Worah Kursunjee do not appear in his separate account with Johir Nagjee, and the five rupees, ready money, carried to account in koree account should, we think, have been entered in the rupee one, as it is usual to keep the koree and rupee accounts separately. Upon examining Worah Kursinjee's chopra, however, our doubts with regard to the 220 rupees vanish, because we find Johir Nagjee credited for the amount. It appears to us that the difference of ink used may have been occasioned by the entries in question having been written when the writer was absent with the chopra, away from his usual place of business.

It appears to us unusual to write, as has been done, that 225 rupees were received, from 400 rupees, unless the account had been with Rugonath himself; whereas it is with a third person, Nuthoo Bhut.

10 February 1852.

(signed) *Oja Gowreeshunkur.*
Govindjee Umbaram.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*,
Second Assistant Political Agent.

No. 11.

ANSWER of *Johir Nagjee* on the report of Govindjee and Gowrieshunkur being read over to him.

THE entries were made at my own house on the date specified. The difference in the writing must have been occasioned by the difference in pen and ink used. I wrote particulars of the 400 rupees in the entry as a memorandum.

10 February 1852.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, 2d A. P. A.

No. 12.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

Representation of *Johir Nagjee*, made after apologizing for the trouble he was about to occasion:

The words "Nuthoo Bhut" were written in the account of St. 1905, about six or seven months after the rest of the entry. The reason for this is, that Udee promised when she pawned the articles to release them in two or three months, and requested me not to insert the name; but, as she did not release them, Nuthoo Bhut's name was afterwards written in the space which had been left for that purpose, should it be necessary. The names Midur Nuthoo were then added to the account in page 40, for St. 1905, which, till then, merely contained the word "Bhut," with vacant space for the additional names. The reason for the thin ink and small letters in the chopra for St. 1907, remarked upon by the punchayut, is, that I was afraid Rugonath should find out that I had written his name in the entry, and I made use of small letters that it might be thought that the handwriting was that of my nephew, Rowjee. I inserted the name that I might, if necessary, hold it *in terrorem* over him, should he be inclined ever to be hard upon me, he being a Government servant. The entry was made a month or a month and a half after the date shown. 13th of Poshwud.

Question by Major *Lang.*] In Hurruckchund Progjee's account, 200 rupees are credited, and the money is entered as paid to Rugonath, and debited to Bhut Nuthoo; what is the meaning of this; is it that the money was given to Rugonath Rao to pay to Udee, or paid to Rugonath on account of Udee?—*Answer.* The money was paid to Rugoonath on account of Bhut Nuthoo, and Nuthoo's wife used to say that she would repay it when she received the amount from Rugonath, and he accordingly did pay it back.

What became of the ornaments after they were released from pawn?—Rugonath, at his own house, gave me 225 rupees, which I paid to Kursin Worah, where I had, in my turn, pawned the ornaments, after which he brought them to my house, and I took them to Rugonath's house, at which time Udee was there, and I made them over to her in his presence.

By *Rugonath.*] You and Udee were on friendly terms, for which reason you advanced me the money; why, then, did you not return her ornaments to her direct, instead of bringing them, in the first instance, to me?—You said that you would pay the money due upon them, and told me to take them to you, for which reason I did so.

Was there any third person by when I said this to you?—Only your two brothers.

By Major *Lang.*] What was written where the erasure in Bhut Nuthoo Midur's account, page 40, of Johir Nagjee's chopra for St. 1905 (translation, letter B.) was made, and why was it erased?—As far as I remember, it was written thus; given to herself (meaning Udee) to give to Rajashree; about eight or 10 months afterwards I noticed that Rajashree stood without any name after it, and as any name might be understood, I thought it better to take out the words "Rajashree," and the rest of that portion of the entry.

Johir Nagjee sworn to the correctness of his deposition.

11 February 1852.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, 2d A. P. A.

No. 13.

Bawa Shewadass, Hindoo; Caste, Barragee; Inhabitant of Joonaghur; Age, about 40 years; deposes before Captain Barr.

Question. To whom, through the agency of Munguljee Goa, did you give the hoondee for 400 rupees which you got from Jetpoor?—*Answer.* The hoondee was given to Luckmechund Shinkurdass, that the money might be paid to Rugoonath Rao; Munguljee took the money from Luckmeechund's shop, and told him he had made it over to Rugonath Rao.

For how many rupees was the hoondee?—For 300 rupees; the rest of the matter is known to my servants Banian Dewchund and Sepaee Dado.

On what account did you give this money to Rugoonath?—The nuwab of Joonaghur had taken property from my mutt, and was oppressing me; I gave the money to Rugonath to obtain restitution of the property and a cessation of the oppression.

What did Rugonath make you understand?—He told me that he would write petitions in support of my interests, but he did nothing.

Why, then, did you not make a representation to Government?—If I had been asked, I should have done so; I presented a petition, upon which I was directed to repair to Joonaghur.

Where did you first meet Rugonath?—Munguljee took me to his house. On the return of Major Lang to Rajcote lately, I demanded my money back from Rugonath Rao, who told me that he had given it to my servant Sepaee Dado.

31 December 1851.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, 2d A. P. A.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

Bawa Shewadass re-examined by Captain *Barr* on the 1st January 1852.

Question. Where do Dewchund and Dado reside?—*Answer.* Dewchund at Peeplia, and Dado at Joonaghur; Dado has been imprisoned for the last eight or nine months by Annutjee.

For what reason has he been imprisoned?—I had written a letter from Rajcote to Hubeeb Khan, telling him that I had long been silent under my wrongs, but that I had at last determined to make them known to Government. There was enmity at the time between Hubeeb Khan and Annutjee, and the latter, therefore, seized this letter and imprisoned Dado, who was the bearer of it, and told him to show how he had expended money at Rajcote.

Do you keep a book of accounts?—Yes; it is with Dewchund.

Did any one take 100 rupees back from you six or seven days after the hoondee came?—No; I did not give 100 rupees to any one.

Where did you keep the account of sundry expenses incurred at Rajcote?—Nagjee Lohana keeps it.

Did you pay 100 rupees to Luckmuchund on the 2d of Mahsood, St. 1907, on account of Mooljee Roopsee of Jetpoor?—No.

You say that you did not pay 100 rupees to Luckmuchund, but it appears from his books that you did; had you not done so, how could he have made such an entry?—Banyan Dewchund, my manager, knows better than I, all about such subjects.

When did Dewchund last come to Rajcote?—I do not recollect positively, but he came either in the month of Post or Mah.

Will the account of Dewchund's daily subsistence expense be found at the same place as yours is kept?—He resided, when at Rajcote, with a female relative, for which reason no account of the nature mentioned was kept.

By *Rugoonath.*] You say that you gave the hoondee to Luckmechund for payment to me; did you tell Lukmechund to give the money to me, or did you tell Munguljee to do so?—I told Munguljee to do so.

Were you at Rajcote when Munguljee gave me the money, and, if so, did he report to you his having done so, and who were present at the time?—I was at Rajcote, and Munguljee told me he had given the money to Rugonath; no third person was present when he made this report.

You have said that you gave the hoondee to Luckmechund; did you tell him to give the money to Munguljee?—I took the hoondee on one occasion to Luckmeechund's shop, when I was told that its time had not expired, and directed to return when it had; afterwards I gave the hoondee into Munguljee's hands, who received the money, but I was not by at the time.

For how many rupees was this hoondee?—Either for 300 or 400 rupees; I had to pay 300 rupees for it; when Dewchund comes he will be able to tell all about it.

Did your case go up before Major Lang or Captain Barr, and, if so, for how many days was it pending, and who was your wukeel?—It went first before Major Lang, and then Kheta Worah was my wukeel; three or four months afterwards it went before Captain Barr, when Gela Wujeram was my wukeel. I do not know exactly how long it was pending; the wukeels know; you placed Kheta Worah as my wukeel.

You say I placed Kheta Worah as your wukeel; did you ask him what I had in my power, since I was merely in the English department, and, if you wished to give me money, why did you not pay it through Kheta Worah, instead of through Munguljee?—When I went to you, you promised to effect my business, for which reason I paid you the money, and I did not pay it through Kheta Worah, because you told me that my affairs must not be conducted by his agency, and directed me to pay the money to yourself; I did not mention this matter to Kheta Worah, nor was any third person present when you spoke to me on it.

Did you not ask Kheta Worah anything about it, or speak to him on the subject?—You told me not to go near Kheta Worah, and so I did not go.

Did you give the money before or after your case came before Government?—After.

Did any one prompt you to take my name, or do you do so of yourself?—No one prompted me; the sircar has asked me, and I therefore speak the truth.

Has your case been decided?—Yes; it has been decided by order of Government.

By Captain *Barr.*] You say your case has been decided; what reason, then, had you for demanding your money back from Rugonath?—Rugonath did not assist in having it decided, and I therefore asked my money back.

How can you tell whether he assisted or not?—Rugonath promised to obtain me an audience, which he failed to do, and I therefore believed that he had not assisted me at all.

Was any third person present when you asked for your money back?—No.

By *Bhutoor.*] Where did you go last night at 11 o'clock?—To my own temporary residence.

Will you swear to this?—No.

Why do you decline to swear to the truth?—What signifies if I went abroad on my own private affairs; I went to the Joonaghur and Jetpor, places of abode; I went also to Shamutkhan's, and also to Prantal's, the brother of the native vaccinator, Hureelal.

Will you swear you went to no other places?—Yes.

What silver ornaments have you presented, and to whom?—I have not presented any.

By

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

By Captain *Barr*.] On examination of Modee Nagjee's chopra, it appears that it contains the account of your private subsistence expenses; but it is stated in Luckmeechund's chopra that you paid in 100 rupees on the 2d of Mahshood; where did you obtain this money?—I am not aware; the people of Luckmechund's establishment will know; 100 may have been given back from the hoondee for 400 rupees, which Luckmechund cashed; Dewchund knows.

1 January 1852.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*,
Second Assistant Political Agent.

Bawa Shewadass, re-examined by Major Lang.

Question. Do you know who gave the 100 rupees back to Luckmuchund?—*Answer.* Munguljee did.

Why did you not tell this before?—I did not recollect before.

Munguljee is confronted with the Bawa, and declares he knows nothing of the 100 rupees in question.

9 February 1852.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, 2d A. P. A.

Bawa Shewadass, re-examined by Major Lang.

Question. Rugonath represents that your dispute with the Nuwab was settled in the month of Kartuk, St. 1907, and it appears that you gave a farm of the village on the security of the nuwab to Bhugwanlal; then what was the necessity of giving money to Rugonath in the month of Pash, after the matter had been settled?—*Answer.* Anuntjee in the month of Kartuk gave me a letter which I took to Joonaghur, and I took up money from Bhugwanlal to enable me to present a nuzerana to the Nuwab, but my complaint was not decided on. On the contrary, a few days afterwards moshuls were imposed upon me to force me to give a razeenama, without the restitution of the property of which I had been plundered; upon which in the month of Mogsur, of the same year, I came again to Rajcote, and told Rugonath that my business had not been settled, and asked him for my records, that I might proceed to the Political Agent's camp. Rugonath said, I should not have them unless I paid for them, and it was then that I got the hoondee sent from Jutpor. Some minor points of my dispute still remain unadjusted.

What records were there?—Rookas, purwanas, &c., having reference to the village, which Rugonath Rao sent by the hands of Bulwant Rae to Shet Doongursee in Rajcote, and of which Rugonath caused their return to me by writing a note upon that shait in question. Rugonath took a receipt for them from me.

Have you a copy of the receipt?—No.

You borrowed 5,000 rupees from Bhugwanlal in Kartuk Shood; then what was the necessity of borrowing money about two months afterwards from Dewchund?—My money transactions with Bhugwanlal were carried on through Dewchund, who received the 5,000 rupees on my account, for *Rs.* 1,212. 8., of which there was a hoondee, which he changed for one of equal value in rupees at Jetpoor, and sent to Rajcote. I did not borrow money from Dewchund.

9 March 1852.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, 2d A. P. A.

No. 14.

Mowjee Jetho; Hindoo; Caste, Banian; Merchant; Age, about 32 years; Inhabitant of Gondul; at present Gomashta of Luckmeechund Sunkurdas's Firm; deposes before Captain Barr.

Question. In the 232d page of your avera (journal) for St. 1907, it is written that a hoondee for 400 rupees, written by Doosee Roopsee Mooljee of Jetpoor in favour of Bawa Sewadass, had been cashed and paid to Parek Munguljee Goa; who counted out the money, and into whose hands was it paid?—*Answer.* I paid the money to Munguljee.

Was the Bawa present when you counted out the money to Munguljee?—No.

Before it was cashed, did the Bawa on any occasion show the hoondee to you?—No, I think not, but cannot say positively. Munguljee brought the hoondee when it was cashed. In the chopra it is stated that the hoondee was cashed in the presence of the owner.

On what date did you enter this amount in the daily cash account as paid?—The date of the hoondee is Poshwud Arnas (30 of Poshwud), and it appears from the daily cash account that it was cashed on the same date.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

By *Rugonath Rao.*] If the owner of the hoondee presented it, what was the necessity of the presence of any one else when it was cashed?—When the owner of a hoondee is not a person whom we know, it is sometimes usual to have some known individual present as a security.

27 December 1851.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
2d Assistant Political Agent.

Mowjee Jetho, again examined by Captain Barr.

Question. Munguljee states that he took the duplicate of the hoondee to you, and arranged that it should be cashed, after deducting discount for the number of days remaining to complete the sight at which it had been drawn, and that you took the money and accompanied Munguljee to Rugonath's house; is this correct?—*Answer.* Munguljee brought me the duplicate, and I went with the cash, accompanied by him, to Rugonath's for that person's security. I asked Rugonath, "Who will be security for the 400 rupees?" and he answered, "I will."

Who actually carried the money, and who counted it over to Rugonath?—I do not recollect whether it was I or Munguljee who was the bearer of the money; *Rs.* 399. 4. were counted out at Rugonath's house, but I forget which of us counted the amount.

Why did you charge a discount on the hoondee?—It was cashed before the sight was expired.

Do you know why the money in question was given to Rugonath?—No.

Did the Bawa ever go to your place of business?—I never saw him there.

30 December 1851.

Witnesses to deposition,
Rewashunkur.
Veerchund.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr,* A. P. A.

Mowjee Jetho, questioned by Rugonath Rao.

Question. The deposition you have given on the 27th December and to-day (30 Dec.) differ from each other; account for this?—*Answer.* What additional particulars came to my recollection to-day, I have deposed to.

If you paid the money to me, why did you enter in your account that it had been paid through Munguljee?—Because Munguljee presented the hoondee. He also endorsed it as contents received.

As you paid the money to me, why did you not get me to endorse the hoondee as contents received?—Munguljee presents the hoondee, and therefore endorsed it, whilst you gave your security.

Why is no mention made of the security in your books?—Sometimes such a matter is entered, and sometimes not.

On a former occasion, when asked for your account, you mentioned merely 400 rupees; how is it that you did not then remember the particulars you afterwards deposed to?—I was not then asked where the money had been taken to.

From the date of your first deposition till to-day, has Johir Nogjee ever gone to you?—Yes, he came to inquire about a hoondee drawn upon him, which we received.

Did you not speak of any other matters?—No.

Was your first deposition or the one given to-day the true one?—What I have deposed to to-day, is true.

30 December 1851.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Assistant Political Agent.

Mowjee Jetho, re-examined by Major Lang.

Question. Has any portion of these 400 rupees been received back by you?—*Answer.* Yes; 100 Company's rupees are entered as received in my chopra, date 2d Mahshood; and it is mentioned that the amount had come in ready money from Bawa Sewadass. When Munguljee took the 400 rupees, I told him that I would take back whatever sum the writer of the hoondie might state to have been paid in excess. Two or three days after the hoondie was cashed, I received advice from Roopsee Mooljee directing me to pay 100 rupees less than the amount entered in it; upon which I told Munguljee to return 100 rupees, and this he accordingly did.

Where did he obtain the 100 rupees to return to you?—I do not know.

As

As Munguljee paid the 100 rupees, why did you put the amount down as received in ready money from Bawa Sewadass?—He paid the money on the Bawa's account, for which reason I entered the Bawa's name.

31 January 1852.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Acting Political Agent.

Mowjee Jethoo re-examined by Major Lang.

Question. Are you certain that Munguljee repaid you the 100 rupees?—*Answer.* Yes, I am certain that he repaid them.

Munguljee and Mowjee are confronted, and the former is questioned and replies, "I know nothing about the repayment of these 100 rupees. If I had repaid them he would have entered in his chopra, received 'through Munguljee.'"

Mowjee's examination is now proceeded with.

If Munguljee paid the money, why did you not enter the words "through (or by the hands of) Munguljee"?—I omitted to do so; but he paid the money, and I am ready to take an oath to that effect, if the sircar wishes it.

Munguljee also declares himself willing to swear that he did not pay the money.

9 February 1853.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr,* A. P. A.

No. 15.

Mowjee and *Munguljee* confronted and examined by Major Lang.

Munguljee acknowledges that he repaid the 100 rupees, although he cannot recollect from whence he obtained the money. He says that the payment of the 100 rupees came to his recollection from having examined Mowjee's daily cash account, and seen the sum of four annas as received through him entered immediately under the entry for 100 rupees. He states that he still owes one anna out of the four to Mowjee. Munguljee is then asked whether he can swear that he does not recollect from whence he obtained the 100 rupees, and he refuses to do so. He states that in all probability he obtained this money from the same person, whose name he has mentioned in his deposition as the recipient of the 400 rupees (Rugonath), but that he is not certain on the point. Munguljee is now questioned by Rugonath:

Question. Did Mowjee show you the entry of 4 annas last night or this morning?—*Answer.* He showed it me last night as we were returning home from the bungalow.

Mowjee is now questioned by Rugonath Rao:

Are the 4 annas credited included in the 100 rupees, or are they separate?—They are included in the 100 rupees; I gave a 4-anna piece to Munguljee, and took copper in exchange.

You have entered the exchange of the 4-anna piece for copper; why is there no entry of the exchange of 2 and 4-anna pieces into whole rupees?—Sometimes an entry is made, and sometimes not. It is not invariably entered.

Munguljee questioned by Major Lang.

Moolchund Veerjee says you took one anna to pay to Waga Parek as dulalee, and that he owes this anna; is this true?—It is true that one anna was given to Waga Parek, but I forget what the dulalee was for.

Mowjee questioned:

Did Munguljee give one anna to Waga Parek as dulalee?—Yes, he did, but I do not know what the dulalee was for.

Munguljee recollects, when reminded by Mowjee, that the 100 rupees were repaid altogether in 8 and 4 anna pieces. Mowjee says that none of the 100 rupees was repaid in whole rupees, although he cannot recollect the proportions in which the smaller coins were paid.

10 February 1852.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Assistant Political Agent.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

No. 16

Mulchund Veerjee, Hindoo; caste Banian; Merchant, age about 50 years; Inhabitant of Rajcote, and Gomashta to Parek Lukmeechund Sunker, deposes before Major Lang:

I do not recollect the date, but one day Munguljee took 300 rupees from our place of business, and returned with the 4 and 2-anna pieces to have them changed for whole rupees. I do not know how many rupees he thus changed. (In reply to a question put.) Munguljee took away the 300 rupees at night, and returned the same night or the following morning to have the 2 and 4-anna pieces converted into whole rupees; we do not keep any record of money thus changed. I do not know whether any portion of the amount he took away was returned or not. On the daily cash account, page 96, being shown to deponent, he states that this account is in the keeping of Mowjee, and that he, deponent, is ignorant concerning it, but that he knows so much concerning the four annas [credited with a memorandum that one anna of the amount is still due by Munguljee,] that Wagjee Parek asked for dulalee from Munguljee, and that one anna was returned to the latter from the four annas he had just paid in. Deponent does not know what the dulalee was for. The daily cash account is shown to deponent, and he is asked to examine four or five pages before and after the one in which the 100 rupees are entered, and to make known whatever may strike him. After the examination, he states that in the 91st page, 400 rupees are entered as paid to Munguljee on a hoondee drawn by Roopsee Mooljee, and in the 96th page 100 rupees are entered as received back in consequence of advice from Roopsee Mooljee. Deponent does not know who returned the money, but is made aware of its return by the entry to that effect.

Question by *Rugonathrao.*] Did you and Mowjee have any consultation regarding this account last night or this morning?—Deponent answers, No; but that he had seen Munguljee seated with Mowjee last night.

10 February 1852.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Assistant Political Agent.

Copy of Extract from Parek Luckmeechund Sunkardass' Chopra for Sumvut 1907, containing the Journal and Daily Cash Account.

Page 232 of the Avera or Journal.

Credit:

12 annas as discount for a hoondee for 400 rupees.

1,200 korees debited to Dosa Roopsee Mooljee, of Jetpoor, on account of hoondee for 400 rupees drawn in favour of Bawa Sewadass Sookramdass, dated Posh Wud 30. Cashed through Parek Munguljee Goa, in Company's rupees.

Page 91 of the rozmel, or daily cash account, commencing on the 13th of Posh Wud, Wednesday, 400 rupees on account of Rupsee Maljee. Paid to Parek Munguljee for a hoondee.

Memorandum.—In the above daily cash account an entry immediately above and another immediately below the one extracted is dated Posh Wud 14th, from which it appears certain that the extracted one must be of the same date.

Page 244 of the Journal.

Credit:

300 korees to Dosee Roopsee Muljee, of Jetpoor, for 100 rupees ready money from the 400 rupees paid to Bawa Sewadass Lukramjee.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Assistant Political Agent.

No. 17.

Munguljee Goa, Hindoo; caste Banyan; age about 25 years; Inhabitant of Rajcote, and in the service of Shet Doongursee, deposes before Captain Barr:

Question. Tell what you know regarding a hoondee for 400 rupees, which got cashed last year by Luckmeechund Sumkurdass?—*Answer.* A Bawa, name and place of residence unknown, and place of meeting him forgotten, said to me I have the duplicate of

of a hoondee on Luckmeechund Sunkurdass, and I answered, "Very good; present the duplicate, and I shall cause the money to be given to you." The Bawa and I then presented the hoondee to Mowjee. I do not recollect whether I remained there after this or not.

Did you take the money when it was counted out into your charge or not?—No.

Were you present when the Bawa received the money?—I do not know whether the Bawa received the money or not.

Was the hoondee cashed before or after the expiration of the sight at which it had been drawn?—It was cashed before.

Was discount paid on this account?—It may have been, but I do not recollect.

The hoondee was the Bawa's, and he was to receive the money; what then was the reason of your accompanying him?—Mowjee gave me half a rupee, for which reason I accompanied the Bawa.

Before this occasion did you ever receive payment for taking persons to have their hoondees cashed?—I never caused a hoondee to be cashed before the one in question, and I was not security for it.

Where was the Bawa's temporary place of abode in Rajcote?—I do not know; I know him, because I was in the habit of meeting him in the bazar.

Did you know him before he brought you the hoondee?—Yes, 10 or 12 days before.

How did you come to know him?—I met him when I was going out from Moljee Jooguteea's, and our acquaintance commenced from that circumstance.

If you and the Bawa did not know each other before, how is it then that when you were conversed with just now, you told me that 100 rupees had been returned from the 400?—Mowjee told me that advice had been received from Jetpoor to take back 100 rupees out of the 400, and he also told me that the money had been returned.

Do you know who repaid the 100 rupees?—No.

Do you know for what purpose the Bawa procured the money?—No.

Who was the writer of the hoondee?—Roopsee Modee, of Jetpoor.

How many days did the Bawa remain at Rajcote after he cashed the hoondee?—I saw the Bawa for 15 days afterwards, at the end of which time I went to another village.

As he remained at Rajcote for 15 days afterwards, why should he have had the hoondee cashed before its date had expired?—How can I tell.

By *Bhootoor*.] Would a sowcar enter any one's name as huste (through the means of) when a payment is made, if he were not present at the time?—No, not if he were not present.

In Luckmeechund's books your name appears thus, how then can you say that you were not present?—I was not present.

Last Saturday did any one go to you from Shet Doorgursee?—No.

29 December 1851.

Witnesses to deposition:
Nurberam.
Veerchund.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*,
Assistant Political Agent.

Munguljee Goa having been kept under arrest during the night to prevent his communicating with other witnesses, called for examination, and having the following morning expressed a wish to be again allowed to give his deposition, is re-examined by Captain Barr on the 30th December 1851.

Question. Who endorsed contents received on the hoondee?—*Answer*. I did.

In whose name?—I forget whether it was in the Bawa's or my own.

Munguljee then unquestioned, states: Ragonath gave me the hoondee for 400 rupees, and told me to get it cashed, and I went and presented it to Mowjee, who, after deducting discount, gave me *Rs*. 398. 12; we both went to Rugonath's house, Mowjee carrying the money.

Was the Bawa present when you took money to Rugonath?—No.

Was the money given by day or at night?—By day, I think.

What became of the 1 rupee 4 annas deducted for discount?—Mowjee kept 12 annas, and gave me 8.

Where did Rugonath expend this money of the hoondee?—I do not know.

By *Rugonath*.] How is it that your depositions of yesterday and to-day differ?—Both are true.

Were you alone when you gave me the money, or was any one with you?—I do not recollect.

Did any one tell you to bring a false charge against me, and that he would give you money for your father's mourning expenses (dara)?—A Banyan said to me to me that a certain person (no name given) called me. This was six or seven days after the death of my father, who died 23 days ago. I will not tell the name of the Banyan, or the person who called me.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

By Captain *Barr.*] Have you deposed to-day through fear of being kept under arrest, or is what you have said all true?—What I said on both days is true, but I was anxious to be out of arrest, because to-morrow is my mother's chumasee. (Festival six months after death.)

By *Rugonath.*] You have said that husti would not be written if the person to whose name it was attached had not been present, how then does your name appear in Johir Nagjee's chopra with "hustee" after it?—I think I paid the money to Johir; but he yesterday told me that I had not, and that my name had been entered at the desire of Rugonath.

Is what you deposed yesterday true, or what you deposed to-day; and if the former be true, did you give your deposition to-day that you might get out of arrest for your mother's chumasee to-morrow?—I deposed to the truth both days.

Why will you not mention the name of the Banyan who told you that a certain person had called you?—I live in Rajcote, and if I mentioned the name I would suffer for it, either now or 10 or 20 years hence.

Is there any account of this money in your chopra?—No.

You keep an account book, and why is this not in it?—I ought to have done so, but neglected it, although I received half a rupee.

30 December 1851.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Assistant Political Agent.

Munguljee Goa examined by Major Lang.

Question. Of the 400 rupees 100 are entered as received in Luckmeechund's chopra; what do you know of this?—*Answer.* I know nothing about it, except from what Mowjee told me.

9 February 1852.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Assistant Political Agent.

No. 18.

Dewchund Dama, Hindoo; caste Banyan; Merchant; age about 40 years; Inhabitant of Peeplio, a village belonging to Bawa Sewadass, under Joonaghur; deposes before Lieut. Nicholson:

Question. Are there any money transactions between you and Bawa Sewadass; if so, show them?—*Answer.* Yes; there is an account of these transactions, from which it can be seen that I gave him a hoondee for 400 rupees, drawn by Roopsee Muljee, of Jetpoor, on Luckmeechund, of Rajcote, for which I have credited Roopsee Mooljee with 1,425 korees, in the 197th page of my chopra, and I have made a memorandum of the Bawa's name in this entry, for which reason I have not entered it separately in his account. This transaction is properly between the Bawa and Roopsee, but I have credited it in my chopra; 100 rupees of these 400 were subsequently returned to Roopsee; I have debited him with that amount (100 rupees).

Show how the Bawa expended the 400 rupees, for which you have given Roopsee credit?—I do not know anything of this matter; the Bawa knows.

Where is this Bawa's chopra?—I do not know. It must be with the Bawa, up to the Dewalee of Sumvut 1906; I wrote the Bawa's account in his chopra, and not after that date. The Bawa was in the habit of putting down accounts on separate pieces of paper, which he kept himself, and he discharged me from his service from the month of Kartick last.

Why did the Bawa bring the money in question to Rajcote in Sumvut 1907; and what did he do with it?—I do not know how he spent it.

Did you come to Rajcote last year?—No; I came upon the Dewalee of Sumvut 1906, on my private affairs; and the Bawa was at Limbee then and not Rajcote.

Did the Bawa ever tell you that he had spent the money in a certain quarter?—No.

Confronted with Bawa Sewadass and questioned.

Bawa, where is your chopra?—It is at Joonaghur, but the account of the money in question is not in it; and there has been no examination of the accounts between me and Dewchund for the last two or two and a half years; what I got from him is in his chopra.

8 January 1852.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Assistant Political Agent.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

The Bawa having represented that he had sent Esoo, then a peon in the mohsullee department of Government, and a servant of his own named Takura, a Hujam, to fetch the money from Dewchund, that individual is again examined by Captain Barr on the 10th January 1852.

Question. When and for what purpose did Putawala Esoo go to you?—*Answer.* I do not remember the month, but Esoo and Hujam Takura came to Peeplea, and the former brought me a letter from the Bawa, directing me to send a hoondee for 400 rupees by the said Esoo, but as Roopsee was absent at Dhorajee at the time, I sent Esoo back without the hoondee. I sent by him 27 pice weight of opium, 20 guz of Juggunaut cloth, and half a piece of cloth called lutta, for the Bawa. Esoo came on the Bawa's mare, and I gave him one koree for expenses, one for himself, and one pice weight of opium.

How long after Esoo returned did you send the hoondee?—I do not recollect how many days after, but sometime after I sent the hoondee for 400 rupees. The hoondee was lost, and I was obliged to send a duplicate of it. I could not give Roopsee more than 300 rupees, so 100 from the hoondee was recalled.

Did you get the hoondee before you paid the money, or how?—I first got the hoondee, and afterwards paid 300 rupees to Roopsee.

Why did you pay 300 rupees?—I had no more at the time; I debited the Bawa with korees to the value of 300 rupees.

By whom did you send the hoondee?—I forget; but I sent the duplicate by Hujam Takura.

How did you become aware that the hoondee had been lost?—The Bawa wrote to me to say so, and asked for the duplicate.

Where is the letter which Esoo brought, and the one calling for the duplicate?—I have not kept them.

Did you send a letter on the Bawa by Esoo?—Yes; I wrote it with my own hand.

Did the Bawa send you a receipt for the articles you sent by Esoo?—No; he told me when he visited Peeplia last Chuetur, that he had received all the articles with exception of the cloth (lutta), and I told him to ask Esoo what had become of it.

Had Esoo his belt with him when he came to Peeplia?—Yes, he had.

Did it strike you as strange that a Putewalla should come to you?—No; when I failed to give him the hoondee, he desired me to repair to Rajcote, to answer for my conduct, and I refused, although much pressed by him, after which I gave him the opium and koree for himself, and he mounted and rode off.

Where does Hujam Takuro reside?—At Limbee.

Did Esoo come to you at Peeplia on any other occasion?—No.

Before or after Esoo's visit did the Bawa mention the 400 rupees to you?—I forget whether it was before or after Esoo's visit; but on one occasion at Joonaghur, the Bawa said he had to pay 400 rupees at Rajcote, and that it would be hard upon him if a horseman came to demand the amount, and that I must therefore send him a hoondee for it, and I agreed to do so.

Did the Bawa tell you to whom the money was to be paid?—Yes, he did; but I have forgotten the name.

10 January 1852.

Witnesses to deposition:

Rewa Shunkur.
Poput Waljee.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Assistant Political Agent.

No. 19.

Esoo Kesur, Mussulman, age about 25 years, formerly a Mohsullee Peon, deposes in presence of Captain Barr:

I do not recollect the day or month; I was about to proceed to Kurrachee, and had obtained leave for this purpose from Dr. Davidson; Bawa Sewadass was at Rajcote at the time, and there was an intimacy between us, and he asked me to go as far as Peeplia with a letter, and to call a Banyan from thence. I assented, and proceeded to that place on his mare, and gave the letter to the Banyan, whose name I am ignorant of. I remained there two days, and returned to Rajcote with a letter from the Banyan to the Bawa.

Question. Do you know what the Bawa had written in his letter?—*Answer.* No.

Did the Bawa tell you to bring a hoondee or money from Peeplia?—No.

Did any one accompany you when you went to Peeplia?—A hajam of the Bawa did, but I do not know his name.

When you went did you take your belt?—Yes.

The Bawa and Esoo are then confronted, and the former questions the latter.

Were you in the habit of coming with Rugonath to my residence when I lived in Dirjee Ladha's house, in Rajcote?—No, not with Rugonath, although I have gone there alone.

Charges against Raghoonath Rao Ragoba.

Did you come to my house with Rugonath when Jemadar Syud bin Nasur visited me?—No, not with Rugonath; I went alone, about 12 o'clock, to drink kusoomba, on the occasion referred to.

By Captain *Barr*.] Peeplia is 24 koss distant; did the Bawa give you anything for going so far, or promise you any reward?—Yes, he said he would give me what he thought sufficient. I said I was in want of clothes, and he told me to get cloth from the Banyan at Peeplia, and I got 20 guz of lutta, from which I gave the hujam who accompanied me seven haths.

As the hujam went to Peeplia, what was the necessity of sending the letter by you?—I was sent to Peeplia, and the hujam accompanied me to look after the mare.

Did the hujam return with you to Rajcote?—I arrived at Rajcote between twelve and one o'clock, and saw the hujam in the town the same evening; but we did not return together from Peeplia.

By *Bawa*.] Did you never call me to Rugonath's house?—No, I never called you.

Why did the Banyan give you opium and a koree?—He gave me opium and a koree, and he gave the hujam a koree for food for the mare.

Will you swear on the Koran that you never saw Rugonath at the Bawa's?—(The Koran is put into his hand and he acknowledges having seen Rugonath's brother, Nanabhaee, at the Bawa's, but swears he never saw Rugonath there.)

10 January 1852.

Witnesses to deposition:

Rewa Shunkur.
Poput Waljee.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, A. Poll. Agent.

Esoo Kesur questioned by Rugonath.

Question. You have sworn to having seen my brother Nanabhaee on one occasion at the Bawa's; is this true; and if so, how many days is it since you saw him there?—*Answer.* I did not say that I had seen Nanabhaee at the Bawa's; I said I saw him passing along the road near the Bawa's house.

20 January 1852.

Witnesses to deposition:

Gela Annundram.
Poput Waljee.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, At. Poll. Agent.

No. 20.

Takuro Jetho, Hindoo; caste Hujam; age about 18 years; Inhabitant of Timbee, a village of the Joonaghur Talooka, deposes before Captain Barr:

I was in the service of Bawa Sewadass last year, for one year, and I accompanied him to Rajcote, where we remained six or seven months in the house of Dirjee Ladha.

Question. Did you see Rugonath and others visiting the Bawa?—*Answer.* Yes; Rugonath and his brother Nanabhaee, and a person named Dwarkadass Praulol, and Esoo Puttewala were often in the habit of visiting the Bawa at night.

Did Rugonath, his brother Nanabhaee, and Esoo Putewalla come to the Bawa's house on the night of the day on which Jemadar Syud bin Nusur went there to drink kussoomba?—Yes.

Did you go to Peeplia with Esoo more than once?—No, I only went once.

Was Esoo in the service of the Bawa, or how?—He was not in his service, but he went to Peeplia at his bidding.

Do you know why the Bawa sent him there?—To fetch money; how much I do not know. The Bawa gave Esoo a letter for Banyan Dewchund, which he delivered, but the Banyan did not give him any money; he gave him certain articles for the Bawa.

Was the Bawa in the habit of visiting at Rugonath's house?—Yes, sometimes at night, when I used to accompany him, and to remain seated on the steps whilst he was inside.

Did the Bawa tell you how much money was to be brought from Peeplia?—No.

Where was the Bawa's place of abode when he first came to Rajcote?—In a house belonging to a khuwasin named Rooree, and afterwards in the house of Dirjie Ladha, which Esoo procured for him.

Did Dewchund give you any letter for the Bawa?—Yes; he gave one to me and one to Esoo.

Did

Did you or Esoo first reach Rajcote on your return?—Esoo reached first.
Was Esoo mounted when he went to Peeplia?—Yes; he rode the Bawa's mare.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

16 January 1852.

Witnesses to deposition:
Kurparam Hemutram.
Hurree Shewram.

(True translation.)
(signed) *J. T. Barr*, A. Poll. Agent.

No. 21.

Khetsee Gela, Hindoo; caste Banyan; profession, a Vakeel; age about 42 years; Inhabitant of Rajcote, deposes in presence of Major Lang, Political Agent:

Question. Bawa Sewadass states that when he was prosecuting his complaint against Joonaghur, Ragonath Rao caused you to be appointed his vakeel; state particulars of this circumstance?—*Answer.* When the Sirkar's swaree (meaning Political Agent's establishment) was at Rajcote, in Sumvut 1906, I forget the date, but about two months before it proceeded again into the districts, Bulwuntrao, moonshee of Joonaghur, brought the Bawa to my house. The Bawa remained at some distance, and Bulwuntrao said to me, "This Bawa has a complaint against Joonaghur, and Rugonath has advised him to write a petition, which you must make out. At present the Bawa has come away in a hurry, and has nothing for expenses; but after his business has been effected, I will cause you to be remunerated." I said, "Very good, let him bring his records and proofs to me." They then both went away. On the same day, or next day, I went to Rugonath's house, and he asked me why I did not write the petition for the Bawa. I answered that I had not leisure, and that the Bawa had not come to me. He then said, if he comes to you by-and-bye, write his petition for him, and I will cause you to be remunerated, and added that it was a case which might be decided on one petition. I replied, "The man is a Bairagee, why should I charge for a single petition? I shall write it for him." Afterwards the Bawa brought his lekhs (writings) to my house, and after making a copy of them, I wrote a petition for him.

Was the matter about which you wrote settled?—I have heard that a memorandum was appended to the petition, stating that the matter had been settled amicably. At that time Anuntjee, the Joonaghur karbaree, was at Rajcote.

When you heard of the settlement, did you ask anything for your services?—No.

Why not?—I did not expect anything, and wrote for him because he was a Bairagee; a few days ago Captain Aston came from his own bungalow to the agency one, and I wen to his bungalow, to look at the furniture for sale, when I met Bawa Sewadass, who asked me whether I had received a "mundil" which he had sent me, through Rugonath, as a reward for my services. I answered no; and the Bawa asked me to swear, upon which I swore upon a "Mala."

Did any one else speak to you on the Bawa's affairs?—No; the Bawa himself came to have the petition written, and after that I never saw him at my house, and never met any messenger of his.

Before or after you wrote the petition did you hear that the Bawa had sent for money?—No.

The Political Agent's establishment left for the districts in November 1850; did you accompany it or remain at Rajcote?—A few days after it had left, I followed it to Balacherree, and accompanied it as far as Hulwud, where I separated from it, which was about Pash Sood or Wud, I do not exactly recollect which. In Mah Shood, there was a marriage in my family, for which I came to Rajcote.

By *Rugonath.*] Was I alone when I told you to write the petition for the Bawa, or was any third person present?—Your two brothers were present, I do not recollect any one else being so.

You are in the constant habit of coming to my house, why should I not tell you myself, instead of sending the Bawa to you with Bulwuntrao?—At the particular time I may not have gone to your house, and you therefore probably sent the Bawa to me with Bulwuntrao, who introduced him to you; for I asked you how you became acquainted with the Bawa, and you told me he had been recommended to you by Bulwuntrao, and that the Bawa was an inoffensive person, and you therefore patronised him.

How many days ago did the Bawa speak to you about the mundil?—About 15 days ago.

Why did you not ask me about the mundil?—I did not know whether what he said was true or false, and, therefore, did not ask, because the question would raise evil feeling.

Sewadass Bawa being present, is questioned by the Political Agent.

Did you ask Ketahworah about the mundil?—Yes, I did.

Why did you ask?—There was a marriage in Ketahworah's family in the month of Mah, Sumvut 1907, and I sent a mundil through Rugonathrao.

Why did you not give it direct, instead of sending it through Rugonath?—I wished it to be given through Rugonath.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

From whence did you get the mundil?—It was one of two mundils I had received from Joonaghur for my father's darra; one Rugonath was to keep, and the other to give to Kheta Worah.

Was any one with you when you gave the mundils?—My servant, Arab Abdoolla, was with me, and Banian Dwarkadass and Bramin Sewnath are aware of the circumstance.

What were you doing at Rajcote in the last month of Mah?—I remained on the faith of Rugonath's promise that my business would be effected.

My establishment left Rajcote two or three months before Mah, and Captain Barr had also left for Wagur, why then did you remain; state after due consideration, for if you state falsely your daily subsistence account will be examined?—Three or four days before the Dewalee I went from hence to Joonaghur, where I remained about one and a half or two months, and from thence I returned hither, where I remained about one month, after which I repaired to your camp.

By *Ragoonath.*] Were Dwarkadass and Sewnath present when you gave the mundils, or did you tell them you had given them; and if so, how many days ago did you tell them?—When I gave the mundils, these two were not present; but 10 or 15 days afterwards Dwarkadass asked me what I had left, and I answered mundils.

How did they gain the information upon which they questioned you?—They were in the habit of visiting me, from which they must have gained their information.

By *Bhutoor.*] Did Dwarkadass visit you from personal acquaintance, or did he come from Rugoonath?—I knew him through my acquaintance with Rugonath.

By *Rugonath.*] Did I ever tell you to receive Dwarkadass, and if so, before whom did I tell you?—You told me, but no third person was by at the time.

1 January 1852.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, A. P. Agent.

No. 22.

Doongursee Dewsee, Hindoo; caste Khutree; Merchant; age about 40 years; Inhabitant of Rajcote, deposes before Major Lang:

Question. Bawa Sewadass, of Peeplia, says that the Rookha of his village was lodged with you by Bulwuntrow, and that you returned it in a note from Rugonath, after taking a receipt; tell particulars of this?—*Answer.* Two years ago there was excessive rain, which threw down Bulwuntrow's house, on which account he placed his box in my house; he placed it himself, and took it away himself, and this is all I know of the matter.

How long did Bulwuntrow's box remain with you?—I do not remember.

When I and my establishment proceeded into the districts in Kartuck, Sumvut 1907, was the box with you or not?—I do not remember.

Was this box locked or open?—I do not know.

Was the key placed with you?—No.

9 March 1852.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, A. P. Agent.

No. 23.

Bulwuntrao Jodrai, Hindoo; caste Kutree; age about 35 years; Inhabitant of Joonaghur, deposes before Major Lang:

Question. Bawa Sewadass says that the original bookha of his village of Peeplia was placed with you, is this true?—*Answer.* This statement is entirely false, and made according to the prompting of some other person.

Did you place any property in the house of Doongursee Shet?—Yes; two years ago, from excessive rain, my house fell, when I placed my property in Doongursee's house, where it remained two or three days; after which I placed it in a house hired from Nana Droo.

Where was this property when I proceeded into the districts in Kartuck last year?—It was with me, and I accompanied your camp.

9 March 1852.

(True translation).

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, A. P. Agent.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

No. 24.

Sunderjee Petamber, Hindoo; caste, Durjee; age about 33 years; Inhabitant of Rajcote, in the service of Doongursee, deposes before Major Lang:

Question. Bawa Sewadass says that you were serving at Doongursee's when he went to get his records; is this true?—*Answer.* On one occasion I saw this Bawa at Doongursee's, but I cannot remember the day or month, and I do not know what he said to him, or what he took away, as I was at work below.

9 March 1852.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, A. P. Agent.

No. 25.

Report of a Punchayet, composed of *Gowrishunkur Oodeshunkur*, Karbaree of Bhownuggur, and *Govindjee Umbaram*, Karbaree of Morevee, on Extract 6 from the Chopra of Luckmeechund Sunkurdass, submitted to them.

In the avera or journal, the account is for the days between Posh Wud 13th, and Posh Amash, or 30th, within which dates is the entry of 400 rupees, debited to Roopsee Mooljee. There are entries below this, dated 13th and 14th of Posh Wud, and therefore this entry may be of either of these dates. In the rozmel or daily cash account, no date appears opposite the entry of those 400 rupees, but above and below it there are entries, dated 13th and 14th of Posh Wud, and it may be of either of these dates, for we cannot say from the chopra positively which of them it is,

10 February 1852.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, A. P. Agent.

No. 26.

Reply of *Rugonathrao*, on the Evidence above taken in this case.

To Major *Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar, the representation of *Rugonath Ragoba*, Head Accountant.

Bhutoor Veeneeram, an inhabitant of Gogeh, incited by numbers of people who bear me malice, and who have joined together to injure me, has for mercenary motives, without reason, made false complaints against me, and the investigation of these has been conducted after an unusual manner before Captain Barr, and the proceedings have been shown to me that I might furnish my reply, which is as follows:

The first complaint against me is, that I sent to Government the petition in the petitioner's name, but I am quite ignorant of the matter, and you, sir, must have thought thus, as no steps have been taken regarding this portion of the complaint, and it is therefore unnecessary for me to allude further to it. The next complaint is, that Udee, widow of Bhut Nuthoo, after having adopted Shinkur, and having afterwards cast him off, entertained the intention of depriving him of all share of the family property, and that Rugonath assisted her in obtaining the support of the Durbar for her purpose, on which account it was arranged that he should receive from the said Udee a gold chain, weight 18¾ gudeeanas and 1½ wals, and 200 rupees in money, but that as she had not the money at the time, she raised it by pawning ornaments to Johir Nagjee, through the agency of Rugonathrao. The third charge is, that Rugonath received a hondee for 400 rupees on Luckmeechund Sunkurdass, for assisting Bawa Sewadass in his complaints against Joonaghur. Of the two last charges I am quite innocent and know nothing. Every one well knows that I am entrusted merely with the keeping of the accounts of the treasury in English, and have no share in the business of the province; it appears unaccountable to me then that it could be supposed that any one would offer me a bribe, and it remains with you to consider this view of the case. It is said that I received bribes from Udee for assisting her to obtain the countenance of the Rajcote Durbar, but I am ignorant of having afforded any assistance. Saljee Parek in his deposition states, that two or three years ago Rugonath spoke to him, and told him that the woman in question was poor and humble, but in no part of his deposition does he mention that I spoke in her favour to the Durbar, and I deny having spoken even to the extent Saljee Parek has deposed to, and although he asserts it, his ill feeling against me is of some date, because some time ago he vainly attempted to cause me to vacate a house next door to his own which I rent for Bhanabhaee. Either on account of this ill feeling, or from the prompting of his relative Kheta Werah, and others, he has joined the cabal against me. It must be remembered, moreover, that he is not the leading karbaree of the Rajcote Durbar. Had I wished to speak in the woman's favour why should I have passed by the leading karbaree, the maternal

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

uncle, Omed Sing, and the wukeels, and gone to one of whose enmity towards me I knew? The wall of the town immediately in rear of my house is fallen, and although I have often begged the authorities to repair it, my wishes have not been acceded to; had I the power of obtaining the countenance of the Durbar, would I have been denied in this matter? From all this you will perceive that Saljee Parek speaks from mere ill will, and you are aware that he is a person unworthy of trust. The third complaint is of having received a bribe to induce me to secure for the giver the countenance of the Joonaghur karbaree, and to assist his case before the sirkar; but you and every one know that the Joonaghur karbaree does not regard me favourably, and how then could I be bribed to gain his countenance, or how could I consent to attempt it? I have no opportunity of doing anything in the business of the province, which is carried on in Guzerattee, or of reading papers in that language before the sahibs, and how could I pretend to the contrary, or who would believe me? You will weigh this. The investigation of this case is conducted before Captain Barr contrary to usage and the rules of justice, for I should be present during the whole examination of each witness, instead of which they are examined apart, and certain of them, after having deposed to the truth, have been sent to the gaol and hardly dealt with; others have been been prompted, and they have not been let go till they reversed their depositions, and many of the depositions have not been read over to me, by which I have been precluded from putting necessary questions. This is the unaccountable manner in which the proceedings are conducted, which you will perceive on a minute perusal of the depositions.

In the second charge the principal witness is the woman Udee. She at first positively denied having given me the chain or the money, and then when prompted and in a state of confusion she stated that she had lent the chain into my family; afterwards she denied having lent it; and from first to last she has denied having given the money, from which it must be allowed that this charge against me has failed. On the same charge Johir has given his deposition and produced his accounts, but the woman Udee, in whose name they are, although most strictly questioned by you, decidedly and positively denies their correctness, from which it must be concluded that the deposition of Johir and the accounts he has shown are equally false and trumped up. Johir in his deposition varies at different times. From the fact of the erasure in his accounts, and from other reasons, it is certain that they have not been kept as the rules of sowcars require. Taking all this into consideration, it is apparent that no trust should be placed in the statement or accounts of Johir. Johir Laljee Parek and Ketah Morah are all related, and have combined to make false charges against me through ill will. I have already made this known to you by word of mouth, and will speak further on it on a future occasion. Sonee Puma in his deposition states, that the chain looks like one of his manufacture, but the woman Udee, for whom he made the chain, declares that this one is not hers, from which it would appear that he had been prompted by the above-named schemers. Moreover, Sonee Mer Hurjee has been questioned regarding my chain, and he positively states that he weighed it when I came from Bombay in Sumvut 1902. It was given to me by my sister's husband, Moroba Sudasew, and if you take his evidence you will be satisfied. I have constantly worn the chain previous to Sumvut 1905, as many persons have seen. Bawa Sewdass, a witness on the third charge, had gone with Anuntjee, and was called and produced by his wukeel, Nursingpursad. He in his first deposition states, that he had given a hoondee for 400 rupees to Luckmeechund Sunkurdass, and that Munguljee took the money from that banking-house, and gave it to Rugonathrao. Afterwards in reply to a question he says, the hoondee was for 300 rupees, and that his servant, Dewchund, knew all about the matter, but Dewchund denies all knowledge of it. The Bawa said he had paid the money to me by the hands of Munguljee, when Munguljee, after having been sent for and brought straight for examination by a Government horseman is questioned, he states that he gave the money to the Bawa and to no other person. On his first examination, speaking the truth, he declared he knew nothing of its having been given to me, upon which he was placed in confinement in the gaol, and on the 30th December he falsely took my name. It appears from his subsequent examination too that he took my name through threats held out to him, from which much discrepancy in the evidence is apparent. Mowjee, the gomashta of Luckmeechund Sunkurdass, gives his deposition on this subject, and on the 27th December states that he gave 400 rupees to Munguljee; afterwards, on the 30th of the same month, he states that he accompanied Munguljee with the money to pay it to Rugonath, whilst Munguljee in his first deposition had said that he had given it to the Bawa, the Bawa declaring that Munguljee had gone to fetch the money. Thus there is a material difference in their respective depositions. Mowjee acknowledges that after he had given his deposition on the 27th of December, Johir Nagjee had gone to him, from whence it must be concluded that it was at the latter individual's teaching that he gave the subsequent false depositions. Mowjee has produced his accounts, and in the daily cash account for Wednesday, Posh Wud 13th, it is stated that a hondee, dated 30th Posh Wud, had been cashed. From this it is certain that the account is quite contrary to the form and usage obtaining amongst the mercantile community, since it is impossible that a hondee, dated at Jetpor 30th Posh Wud, could be cashed three days before that date. It is absurd. Moreover, in Johir Nagjee's chopra, 225 rupees out of these very 400 are entered as received from Rugonath, through Munguljee, on the 13th of Posh Wud, on account of Bhut Nuthoo. In his deposition he states that Rugonathrao paid this money, and that, "through Munguljee," had been entered at the desire of Rugoonathrow. Udee, widow of Bhut Nuthoo, whose account it is, states in her deposition that she took 200 rupees from

from her house and paid them herself, and that interest had been forgiven through friendly motives. It must be inferred then that Johir, Mowjee, Munguljee, &c. concerted together to establish if possible false accusations. Kheta Worah has given his deposition in this case, and says I caused him to be appointed the Bawa's wukeel; this is quite false, and stated through ill will. He says also that I received a mundil from the Bawa; this too is false, for the Bawa when questioned by Bhutoor positively denied having given clothes or jewels to any one. The falsehood of Kheta Worah's statement will at once be understood. Bawa Sewadass during the course of investigation of this case, in reply to a query, has declared that he had money transactions with no one except Nagjee Sohana, but I have heard that he has transactions of this nature with Sugunlal, a sowcar of the Sudder bazar, and with Pranlal, brother of the native vaccinator, Heeralal, and his declaration is therefore false; and I have heard that his character and mode of living are very bad, so much so, that no credence can be given to his word. As above-mentioned, there is much difference and contradiction in the depositions of these witnesses, and much irregularity in the accounts produced, all of which you will perceive on a minute consideration. Moreover, all the witnesses and the complainant, Bhutoor, and a number of other persons, are combined to raise false accusations against me, the clear proof of which is that Bhutoor, in his petition, has given every particular regarding the weight of the chain, the pages in Johir Nagjee's and Sonee Pooma's chopras, where entries to criminate were to be found, &c. &c., which he never could have done unless there had been combination against me. It is apparent, therefore, that they have joined together to prepare evidence to convict me of false accusations, what wonder then that the witnesses should depose as they were prompted? But you are the dispenser of justice, and I am confident that their false accusations will fall to the ground.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

14 January 1852.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, A. P. Agent.

P.S.—A number of persons, after being prompted by the schemers against me, have subsequently given depositions on the third accusation, and even they contradict each other. From the first the Bawa, at the teaching of the Joonaghur karbaree, intended to prosecute these false accusations against me, which is proved by Pranlal's deposition, who had written a letter to him mentioning my name, as if we were on the most intimate terms, but he had no reason for doing this, as I never carried on the Bawa's case before Captain Barr. Pranlal states to Captain Barr that the Joonaghur karbaree had given him a letter for his agent, Sudasinkur, and had told him to assist the Bawa, in accordance with the advice of this person. The Joonaghur karbaree was then asked by Captain Barr whether he had given Pranlal a letter to Sudasinkur, and he acknowledged that he had. Kheta Worah, one of the schemers, at the instigation of the Bawa, says the latter sent a mundil for him to me, but Pranlal shows that this mundil had been pawned to him, which proves that what Kheta Worah says is completely false. Pranlal and Sugunlal speak to having money transactions with the Bawa, from which the falsehood of his statement is apparent. Pranlal, moreover, says that this Bawa keeps a Khaut woman in his house, which proves his bad character, and who can be surprised at what he does? Takura, a servant of the Bawa, was taught to say that I was in the habit of visiting his master, and he states that Sepaee Esoo and Pranlal used to accompany me, but they both positively deny it. I am said to have procured Dirjee Ladha's house for the Bawa, but I know nothing of the matter, and all who have been examined on the point contradict each other, namely, the Dirgee, his wife, and his son; the wife saying that she rented it to the Bawa's servant, Abdoolla. From all these facts it is certain that persons of influence have got up these accusations against me.

26 January 1852.

(True translation.)

(signed) *J. T. Barr*, A. P. Agent.

(True copy.)

(signed) Wm. Lang, Political Agent.

To Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar, Jusdhun.

Honoured Sir,

I BEG leave most respectfully to state, that if your Honour be mercifully pleased to grant me leave for a month, as stated in my former request, it would be better for me to wait upon his Lordship the Right honourable the Governor of Bombay, and to present my lamentable case to his Lordship, through the medium of any of the learned barristers or attornies, as the summary of such proceedings is always sent by your Honour to the Government, which would,

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

would, of course, throw no light in solving several of the technical points which are to be found in each of the evidences taken in my case and other things connected therewith; however, on considering the verbal requests made by me to your Honor, and the defence given in by me under date the 26th January 1852, I humbly trust, from your Honor's well-known benevolence, that the conspirators who, having previously devised the plan for my ruin, laid false accusation against me, will incur your Honor's severe displeasure, and that I may meet with due redress. I presume that I may be pardoned for taking the liberty in bringing to your Honor's kind notice a few instances of the irregularity with which the investigation of my case was conducted by Captain J. T. Barr, through the misrepresentation of his sheristedar, Naka Mehta, who is my known enemy, which are as follows:—Immediately on the receipt of a petition from the complainant, Bhutoor, against me, Captain Barr sent for me, and when I waited upon him he told me to give him the golden chain from my neck, which I was obliged to give him, as I did not think it advisable for me to disobey his unjust order at the time when I was doing the duty of my appointment, and as soon as he received the chain from me, he sent for the witnesses, and when they appeared before him, his sheristedar showed the chain and questioned to each of those witnesses so awkwardly, that it is unnecessary for me state its repetition in this short request, but either the one or the two of the passages he has added in his own handwriting in some of these evidences without the knowledge of the parties concerned, which I have already pointed out to your Honor; and, moreover, he took the evidences in my case in a separate room in my absence, which he caused to be attested by those persons who have connexions with Unutjee, Kheta Worah and himself, and he did not also read some of them to me in order to prevent my putting the necessary questions to them, as well as some of them were sent into confinement and were threatened, but were released when they stated my name falsely; but, honoured sir, it is customary with the British officer, that unless the prosecutor is at first examined so rigidly as would appear the ground on which the accusation preferred could be established, as shown by the complainant in his petition, no culprit should be called upon to answer the charge, nor would the investigation of such a case be proceeded with without having done so previously. The first charge preferred against me by the prosecutor is for a bribery in receiving, in St. 1905, a golden chain and a sum of 200 rupees in cash from Jewere Nagjee, with whom the jewels were pledged by Udee, the widow of the late Nathoobhut, for recommending to the Rajcote Durbar to cause the dispute existing between her and her adopted son, named Sunker, to be settled, and to allow no property to be taken by her adopted son; in reply to which I beg leave to refer your Honor to the defence given in by me under the above quoted date, and to say that Baee Udee, the widow, who is stated by the prosecutor to be a proprietor, denied all knowledge of giving her chain to me, or of claiming my chain to be hers, at first in her evidence, after which she said that she gave the chain to my wife as a loan for her wearing it, which she has at length confessed that she has done so at Naka Mehta's instigation, and denied all knowledge of giving me the chain or of paying me the sum of 200 rupees, from the beginning to the end. Moreover, the same sum, with the interest thereon, appears to have been repaid by her, and there is a vast discrepancy between her and Juwere Nagjee's evidences, from which it is evident that the open account (or the thaurkhatha) produced by him and the evidence given by him are totally false, and he appears to be guilty of forgery and prevarication in this case, as they do not tally with each other; and the sum of 225 rupees, with the interest thereon, is entered by him to have been received from me, through Munguljee, out of the sum of 400 rupees, which is stated by the prosecutor to have been received by me as a bribe from Bawa Sewdass of Joonaghur, and this entry is stated by the deponent Juwere to have been made by him in his account-book at my desire. It is indeed very incredible that a person (who has long been in the Government service) such as myself would desire him to cause such an illegal entry to be made in his account-book; but on the contrary, his account-books appear to be fraudulent by his having entered my name in them, and this does not seem to have been done by him according to the practice of the mercantile firm; besides this, if a reference be made by your Honor to the report given in by the arbitrators, and the answers given by him to the questions put by your Honor, it would appear, that on asking a pardon he represented that he has filled in the four letters in the space which he had left blank in the entry of this dealing, six or seven months after this entry had been made by him in his books, and he also said that he has entered my name because I am a Government servant, and if I lift up my head to annoy him at any time, it would be shown to me in order that I might be subdued thereby; he is also related to one or two of the conspirators, from which I conclude that he has entered my name falsely in his accounts, and he is not a regular banker; moreover, he is dealing with the conspirators, therefore neither his accounts nor his evidence is to be trusted in, and I have received nothing either from him or her, nor have I recommended her to the Rajcote Durbar, and if this was the case, how her one house could have been made over to her adopted son forcibly by the Rajcote Durbar, and why the share of her giras could not have been enjoyed by her agreeably to the settlement made by her caste people between her and her adopted son in Sumvut 1903? It is indeed a curious thing that the settlement of her dispute appears to have been made in St. 1903, and although she has not had the full benefit of this settlement in receiving her share from her giras till now, yet I do not know why she should be compelled to give me the aforesaid bribe in St. 1905, two years after her settlement has been made; however, the other particulars of this case will be found from the evidences of all these witnesses, and the reports made by the arbitrators, to whom I have also not had an access of putting the

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

the requisite questions. The second charge preferred against me is for a bribery in receiving the sum of 400 rupees, being the amount of a hoondee drawn by Roopsee Mooljee of Jetpor on Sukoosunker of Rajcote, for the dispute existing between Bawa Sewdass and the Joenaghur authorities, which was caused to be settled by me amicably; in answer to which I beg also leave to refer your Honor to the aforesaid defence given in by me, and to state that there is a vast difference between the evidence given by Bawa Sewadass, his servant, Deveechund Munguljee, and Mowjee, and the complaint made by the prosecutor, and the account produced by Mowjee in this matter are both unfounded, as they do not correspond with each other; however, the money is stated by the prosecutor to have been paid in the month of Post of St. 1907, and this money is said by this Bawa to have been paid after his business has been commenced, but at first the business is stated by this Bawa in his evidence to have not been done by me, therefore he came to me to take his money back; then whether his one or the other story is to be believed? Notwithstanding this, his business appears from the Government records and the evidence given by Bhugwanlal Mudohunjee to have been settled amicably in the month of Kurtuck of Sumvut 1907, and when his business was settled in that month, why the money was paid as a bribe in the month of Post, knowing that his business was not done by me; besides this, he is a man of bad character, as stated by Bhugwanlal and Pranlal in the evidences given by them, from which it would plainly appear that I have received nothing from him, nor have I done anything for him, as I am only appointed as a head accountant in this Agency, and I bear no influence or power in interfering with the Guzerattee affair, which is totally unconnected with the branch of my service, which is well known to all and every person. Kheta Worah is an experienced wukeel, who falsely stated that he was employed by me for this Bawa, with whom I became acquainted through Bulwuntrao, and this Bawa likewise stated that he became acquainted with me through Munguljee; moreover, Kheta stated the mundils to have been taken by me from this Bawa, who denied all knowledge of giving them to me when he was questioned by the prosecutor, and also the same mundils appear to have been pledged by this Bawa with Pranlal, in addition to the sum of 300 rupees which was borrowed by this Bawa from Pranlal at the time when his business was going on before Captain Barr, and I was absent on leave at Bombay. Kheta Worah stated that he did not see this Bawa after he wrote a petition for him, but he heard of this Bawa's business being settled amicably; I fancy he must have seen him again, for he has signed as having read the order given by your Honor on the back of this Bawa's petition, which he must have informed this Bawa, as it was his duty to do so, and it should be considered whether or not it was his duty, as wukeel, to explain to his clients that I had nothing in my hands to get his business done; however, the nature of this Bawa's misconduct, and Kheta Worah's falsehood, which are apparently to be found in several of the evidences taken in this case, should be visited with your Honor's severe displeasure, as I knew nothing, and they having been combined in a plot, defamed my character by getting me suspended from my duties by your Honor's oral order on the 9th instant, which has indeed been very grievous to me in my position as an English writer, and as I have been punctual with the duties pertaining thereto, they wished to ruin me frustrately, having paid no attention whatever to their own roguery, with which I have nothing to do at all; but I have now to request the favour of your submitting this short and humble request with my case to the Honourable Board, with such recommendation that I may be reinstated in my former post. By doing so I will ever pray for your Honor's long life and every prosperity.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Ragonath Rugoba,*
Rajcote, 11 March 1852. Suspended Hd. Acct. of the Rajcote Agency.

(True copy.)
(signed) W. Lang,
Political Agent.

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor.

I SHALL be much obliged if my judicial colleagues, the Honourable Messrs. Bell and Warden, will favour the Board with their opinion on this case.

24 April 1852. (signed) *Falkland.*

See separate Minute.

1 May 1852. (signed) *A. Bell.*

See separate Minute.

18 May 1852. (signed) *J. Warden.*

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Bell.*

AFTER an attentive consideration of the evidence against the accused, I see strong grounds for impugning the conviction recorded against him by the Political Agent, Major Lang, and submitted with his letter of the 10th ultimo.

Much has been urged on the score of discrepancies in the evidence. To a careful peruser of the evidence, which has been adduced on the one side (for the accused would appear to have been denied the privilege of examining his own witnesses), is a circumstance deserving of serious consideration, and should not be lost sight of.

The discrepancies which exist are more in number and greater in importance than might reasonably be expected in a case of this nature, and they satisfactorily prove, to my mind, the presence of combination or conspiracy.

I shall now proceed to remark on the several charges, as they appeared in the arraignment.

Firstly. That the accused was the writer of a petition to Government, forwarded originally in Butoor's name, and afterwards with his feigned signature, although he had neither caused the one to be written nor knew anything of the signature of the other.

Regarding the authorship of these petitions to Government, the Political Agent remarks in the letter handing up the proceedings, "there is no evidence whatever to implicate him, and no sufficient grounds even for suspicion against him." No comment is, therefore, necessary on this charge. I cannot, however, pass over the petition of Bhutoor Weeneram, recorded No. 1 in the proceedings, without pointing out the great care which has evidently been bestowed in its preparation, and the precision with which the several proofs are referred to, even to the weight of the chain, and to the pages of the chopras or books of accounts, in support of the accusations, strongly indicating that combination existed against the accused; it is, I think, much to be regretted that Bhutoor was not subjected to a strict examination as to how and where he obtained his information on the accusations he has preferred against this Government officer.

The second charge is, "that Rughoonath received a bribe of a gold chain, and 200 rupees in money, from a widow, named Udee, for assisting in effecting her purpose of disinheriting a nephew, whom she had adopted and afterwards cast off."

The woman Udee disavows the giving of the chain, and she also denies having given the 200 rupees, and states the purpose for which this money was raised, namely, to defray the expenses of sending her daughter to her husband's house.

The chopras adduced in support of the item of 200 rupees, said to have been paid to Udee, would appear from the punchayet's report to be untrustworthy; from the erasures they contain, their validity was, in my opinion, entirely vitiated.

A number of leading questions have been put to several of the witnesses in the investigation into this charge, eliciting the answers to be given, a course highly improper.

The accused, in his explanation regarding the chain, asserts that it was given to him by his sister's husband, Maroba Sadasew, and which could be established by his evidence, but this was not taken. He also distinctly states that he has constantly worn the chain previous to Sumvut 1905, which fact many persons are ready to depose to; the presumption then is, that if it were obtained in the manner represented by the informer, he would not have had the effrontery to have worn it in the public way he did.

The Political Agent has considered it proper to keep the chain in the Treasury pending the orders of Government on the subject, and recommends that it be given to the woman's nephew, Shunker Gungaram, who is said at one time to have been adopted by her, and is heir to the property after her death.

Now, this chain either belongs to Udee woman, or to the ascused. Udee disavows having given it to the accused, and the accused himself says that it was given to him by his sister's husband; admitting, then, the adoption of Shunker Gungaram to have been legal, he can have no claim as heir to the personal

personal property until after his aunt's death. I would therefore suggest that the chain be restored to the party from whom it was received, leaving it to the legal owner to recover it from the party unlawfully in possession.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

In the third charge it is alleged, "that the accused received a bribe of 400 rupees from a man named Sewadass, a Bawa, who complained of oppression experienced from the Joonaghur authorities, and whose case he promised to bring to a satisfactory conclusion by exerting his influence with the authorities in question, and by affording advice and assistance in submitting it to the notice of the Political Agent."

The Bawa, by whom this item of 400 rupees is said to have been paid, is admitted to have borne a most disreputable character, and had it not been for the strong corroboration afforded by the entry in Jeewan Nagjee's accounts, the Political Agent states he would himself have given the accused the full benefit of the many discrepancies in the evidence regarding this charge, and acquitted him of it altogether.

Bawa Shewadass deposes that the hoondee was given to Luckmeechund Shunkerdass, that the money might be paid to Ragoonathrao (the accused). Munguljee took the money from Luckmeechund's shop, and told him (Bawa Jeewanjee) that he (Munguljee) had made it over to Raghoonathrao. The testimony of this witness is put out of the question, from the damaging character given of him by the Agent, in the 4th paragraph of his letter; but had such not been the case, it must be borne in mind, that the giver of a bribe can only be considered as a tainted witness; when Munguljee was first examined, he denied having received the amount of the hoondee, but having been kept under arrest during the night, to prevent his communicating with other witnesses, on the following morning expressed a wish to be again allowed to give his deposition, when he declared that he and Mowjee, who discounted the hoondee, which had only two days to run, but at whose desire does not appear, and they both went to Ragoonath's (accused) house, Mowjee carrying the money. Now the receipt of the money, 400 rupees, that is, 398 rupees, less the discount, is clearly traced to Munguljee and Mowjee, and they further admit it; the fact of its being paid to the accused rests entirely on the word of these two interested witnesses, who naturally have to account for the disposal of the amount, and which they unscrupulously assert was paid by them to the accused Raghoonathrao, "although neither of them admitted this when first questioned on the subject, and Munguljee had been kept a night in confinement." The evidence of these persons the Political Agent also distrusts, consequently the only proof which can be found in support of this charge is the report of the punchayet, and to which the Political Agent attaches so much credit, but which, considering the informal way in which the accounts appear to have been kept, I hold to be undeserving of all confidence. It is not improbable that these accounts may be, what is termed, "Tam Khatta," which is nothing more than loose sheets of paper, and well suited for transactions like the present. It has been observed by the accused in his explanation, and I think most justly, that from the nature of his duties he is precluded from interfering in the business of the province, which is conducted by the sheristadars, and readers of the native papers, so whatever influence he may have possessed, he had no opportunity of exercising it.

In the course of my judicial experience, I have seldom reviewed a case so devoid of conclusive proof, or in fact, so unsatisfactorily conducted.

To dismiss this head accountant, who is, I imagine, from his present position, an officer of some standing in the service, and who is represented by the Political Agent to be superior in his own department of accounts in almost every respect to any man he has ever had to do with, on such flimsy accusations, would be an act of great injustice, and which I never could consent to; as he has, however, evidently lost the confidence of his superior from his alleged intriguing propensities, it will become a question for the Board's consideration, whether he should not be permitted to retire, if entitled to his pension.

(signed) *A. Bell.*

1 May 1852.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

No. 4687.

Minute by the Honourable Mr. *Warden*.

Mr. Bell has reviewed this case so carefully and so well, as to leave me little to record, beyond my concurrence in the view he has taken of it.

I circulate a petition which the accused sent to me some time ago, but as I neither know him or had ever heard of his case, I have only just read it.

Should it be considered necessary to carry the inquiry further, this petition should, I think, be sent to the Political Agent for his and his assistant's remarks, more particularly on the alleged suppression of what is called, "the answer that was received from the Durbar's mother," and on the allegation that "one or two sepoys of the Durbar were placed as sentinels over the door of Udee for six days."

It would appear that the accused was wearing openly on his person, from which he took it when accused, the chain he is charged with having received as a bribe; and he states to me the name and residence of the donor, as no doubt he did to Captain Barr; and as the chain has not been identified by the alleged manufacturer at Rajcote, I concur with Mr. Bell that it should, if it be determined to carry the inquiry no further, be given back to the person from whom it was taken.

If the story of the chain be false, who can believe the rest of the case? Bolstered up though the prosecution has been by imprisoning witnesses, putting barefaced leading questions to them, suspending the accused, and above all, by omitting to take the evidence for the defence.

My settled opinion is that the charges are the result of a conspiracy to ruin the accused.

The defective nature of the inquiry should, at least, be pointed out to the Political Agent, for the information of his assistant, who should be reminded, that resorting to restraint, or any other criminal measures in relation to witnesses, always defeats its own object, by raising suspicion in respect to what they say.

The accused should, I think, be removed from Rajcote, but without injury to him; the sole purpose being to rescue him from the grasp of his enemies.

(signed) *J. Warden.*

18 May 1852.

To the Honourable *John Warden*, Esq., Member of Council, Bombay.

Honourable Sir,

On the 17th day of December 1851, when the complaint was made by Bhutoor, of Gogo, against me, Major Lang, the Political Agent, and Captain Aston, the first assistant, were both present at Rajcote, and the complainant presented his petition to Captain Barr, the second assistant, who commenced the investigation of my case nine days after the presentation of the above petition (*i. e.* on the 26th of that month), when I was ordered to wait upon him, and on my being presented before him he ordered me to give him the golden chain from my neck at once, which I gave to him at the same time agreeably to his order; after which he sent for the witnesses on the part of the prosecutor, and on their being present the chain was shown, and the evidence was taken from each of them in a separate room, in my absence, with such an irregularity that the ordinary rules prescribed both by law and justice were disregarded in the investigation of my case, which will be observed by your Honor from the proceedings submitted by Major Lang lately, and my petition to the Government of this day's date; I have also briefly particularized the same in my defence of the 16th March 1852.

I have been surprised to find that the prosecutor presented his petition to Captain Barr, and not to the senior officers, and moreover, that officer commenced its investigation earlier, which was rather unusual in this case, than the other cases of this kind, which were disposed of in this Agency; however, the prosecutor showed the accusations preferred by him to be a crime of bribery, which he could not appear to have proved according to the versions of his petition, but when I took into my consideration all the contents of his petition, and all the other circumstances, with due attention, I was led to think that any of the Government native servants should have been mixed up with the complainant and the witnesses Jahwur Nagjee, Khetta Hora, Munguljee, and others, who appeared to be guilty of a conspiracy in laying the false accusations against me, which my supposition proved to be true; when the name of Captain Barr's sherustedar, Naka Mheta, was found during the examination of my case, and though this sherustedar was not on good terms with me, for his being an intimate friend to Umrutjee and Khetta Hora, who are the chief conspirators; yet the investigation of my case was ordered to be conducted by this sherustedar under Captain Barr, as will evidently appear from each of the evidences taken in this case.

Baee

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

Baee Adee, who is a principal witness, does not state in her evidence the golden chain to have been given by her to me; after which she said, "That she gave the chain to my wife as a loan;" and she does not state the sum of 200 rupees borrowed by her from Jahwur Nagjee in pledge of her jewels to have been paid by her to me; she pledged her jewels with him, and she redeemed them herself; and the next day she said, that "she paid the money to me," and I paid it to Jahwur, who gave the jewels to me, and I delivered them over to her immediately on the same day; but after she being solemnly warned, and accused of allowing herself to be tampered with by me, and having received six days' time to deliberate, and a sepoy being placed as sentinel over her door, on being brought forward again, and again warned, she repeats what she before stated, that she sold her chain and jewels to wandering goldsmiths about 15 months before; that her first evidence was false; that she was instigated to it by Naka Mheta, sherustedar to Captain Barr. Her evidence is also so irrelevant and defective, that it cannot be considered as valid against me before any court of justice; and, moreover, she is a chief witness in this case, though her evidence does not corroborate with any of the evidences, or with the version of the prosecutor's petition; and Sunker, the adopted son of this widow, is not an eye-witness, and his evidence shows itself that he has displayed a great falsehood in it, in taking a revenge from his mother in order to acquire the possession of her property before she died; but if a reference be made to the award given by their caste people in a case of their dispute, which was settled by them in Sumvut 1903, it would appear that she has not had the full benefit of that settlement according to this award from that time up to this moment; and in spite of that award, one of her houses was made over by the Rajkote Durbar to her adopted son; forcibly, however, her son's evidence does not agree with any amongst those which were given by the others in this case; and Lalljee Paruk is not a prime carbharee, but he is record-keeper at the Rajcote Durbar, and is my enemy, for which he gives his false evidence in my case; but I did not make any recommendation to him or any one else about her at all; his evidence does not correspond with any other evidences; and the evidence which Lalljee Paruk gave in my case, shows the evident cause for his envious conduct towards me, which, if being taken into your mature consideration, it might give an inference to that effect; and the evidence of the goldsmith who is stated to have made the chain, proves nothing; he states "that the chain appears to have been made by him," and produces a book purporting to contain an account of a translation 13 years old, but without the day of the month, nor does he know in whose handwriting the accounts is; after upwards of 13 years' use the chain seems to have lost nothing of its weight; however, this is my chain, and not of any one else; it has been given to me by my brother-in-law, Mr. Moroba Siwasewjee, pensioner, residing opposite to the house of Mr. Jugonath Sunkersett at Bombay, and it is most improbable that I would thus wear and publicly display a chain received in this way, which many people would have known to belong to Adee, and which I could so easily have destroyed the identity of, and sold through my family in Bombay.

More Sonee states in his evidence, this chain to have been weighed by him before, two or four years, when I arrived here from Bombay to assume the charge of my appointment; but since the Sumvut 1902, (A.D. 1846), I did not return to Bombay till the month of February 1851, when I went thither on leave; and the account-books produced by Jahwur, and the evidence given by him, be examined with due care and attention, as pointed out in the report made by the punchayet, he will certainly be found guilty of forgery and perjury; then how any reliance can be placed in the accounts or the evidence given by a person such as Jahwur, who is related to some of the conspirators.

That the second instance of receiving bribes is, "that the sum of 200 rupees was caused to be paid; the widow, to raise the money, having pledged her ornaments with Jahwur, who procured this sum from Hurruckchund Pragjee." The evidence of the widow Adee is positive in this instance, and completely exonerates me; that she pledged her jewels for 200 rupees, to defray the expense of despatching her daughter to her husband's house; when the amount was received from her recovery, she repaid it and redeemed her jewels.

For instance, if I had received the chain as a loan from Adee I would have fairly stated so, as the practice of lending the jewels to each other are prevalent among our people, and if I had caused the sum of 200 rupees to be paid by Jahwur to her, or to me as a loan through her, I would have never failed to tell the truth, as they had no connexion whatever with me in my public capacity of head accountant; but I am exceedingly sorry to say that I have neither taken, nor have I received anything as a loan, or in any other shape, either from him or her, and they have purposely devised this plan for my ruin. And Doongersee Shetts and other witnesses' evidences were not read to me, for which I could not be able to put them the necessary questions, though the one or two of them were applicable in this case. The prosecutor stated, that Adee had been to me after she gave her statement, and at my instigation she changed her evidence the next day, for which she was taken in a separate room by the Political Agent, and when she said plainly that she had been to Nanceba, the mother of the Durbar, and not to me, for which a note was sent by Lalljee Parick to the Durbar's mother, who verified this widow's saying, from which the prosecutor's statement is false; yet he did not appear to have received any reprimand for his falsehood; and the answer which was received from the Durbar's mother has not also been recorded in the proceedings of this case; but, on the contrary, Adee stated in her evidence she had been confined to her house, and one or two sepoys of the Durbar were placed as sentinel over her door for a period of six days, in order to speak my name falsely. This is the partiality existing in this province, and the ryots are entirely dependent; so if any influential karbharee or wakeel of the Durbar instigates any of the ryots to speak a lie, he ought to listen to it, and if not he

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

should undergo the penalty of his ill fate under a false plea of any crime; and all the Naggurs are very rich and powerful in this province, and if they rob the whole country, which can be proved by the letters of their own handwriting, and so on, still no inquiry of such a case may be made by any of the British officers, and every indulgence shall be shown to them in procrastinating the investigation of such a case against any of them. This evil practice will never be removed from this country unless any upright British officer opens his eyes and looks at them; because if any of them gets even 40 or 50 rupees pay, he should be worth more than 20,000 or 40,000 rupees in a year or two after he had obtained an employment on the establishment of this agency, particularly in the native department.

Bawa Sewadass is a principal witness also in another case, whose evidence was taken, in which his bad behaviour and falsehood have been displayed by himself so greatly, that the repetition thereof seems to be unnecessary for me to introduce in this short request; his evidence does not tally with any of the other evidences, nor does the next passage of his evidence agree with the one which he has stated at first; he stated that the remaining matter is known to his sepoy Dada and Dewchund, but the former was put by the Joonaghur authorities into confinement before the bribe is alleged to have been paid by him, and Dewchund denied all knowledge of this bribe. Moreover, Dewchund stated that he had been to Rajcote in Sumvut 1906 (when this Bawa was not at Rajcote), and not in Sumvut 1907, as stated by this Bawa in his evidence; Dewchund, is his servant, and Dada, sepoy, who was put into confinement at Joonaghur, was brought to Rajcote through the karbharee Unutjee, and his evidence was taken; but as he is said to have denied all knowledge of anything connected with this case, his evidence does not appear to have been recorded in this case by Captain Barr; however, I do not know anything about it exactly, and Bawa stated at first that he has borrowed the money from Dewchund, and not from any one else; however, Dewchund said, that he had lent the money to Bawa, for which the necessary proofs were obtained from Roopse Mooljee of Jetpoor, from which it appears that he had sent a duplicate hoondee to him. Notwithstanding this, Bawa again stated, that he has borrowed the same money (when Dewchund lent him) from Bhugwanlall Mundanjee, whose evidence was taken, in which this Bawa's bad character and good agreement with the Nowab of Joonagher appeared to be true, as well as Bhugwanlall stated, of his having lent this Bawa a sum of 5,000 korees by a note passed by the Nawab of Joonaghur to him, as a security for its due liquidation; and if his evidence be received with every care, this will appear to be a conspiracy committed by some one against me; and, moreover, his evidence corroborates with the one given by Pranloll, so far as regards the conspiracy, which may appear to be well established if the postscript of my defence be perused with due attention. I have done nothing for this Bawa, and I have not received any bribe either from him direct or through the medium of Munguljee or Mowjee, who have at first stated the truth in not having paid the money to me, in their evidences; therefore Munguljee was sent into jail on the plea of his being kept separately until the arrival of Bawa, as questioned by Captain Barr, but the next day he had a rite to perform at his house, for which he sent a word with the gaoler for his permission; then he was brought from the gaol and made him to speak my name falsely, when he was released from the gaol one day before this Bawa arrived; and the latter part of Munguljee's evidence is somewhat corroborative, so much as relates to the conspiracy, as stated in Bhugwanlall and Pranloll's evidences; and Mowjee was also compelled to speak my name falsely the third day after he had seen Jahwur, who should have instigated, in the name of Ununtjee, the influenced native karbharee, who is conducting affairs of Joonaghur and Rajcote, as well as a leading native member before the Political Agent, because if such were not the case Mowjee should have submitted any sufficient reason why Jahwur had visited him, which he could not do at all. And where cruelty and malice are in combination with power, nothing is so easy as for them to find a pretence to tyrannise over innocence, and exercise all manner of injustice.

Bawa's business appeared to have been settled before the bribe is alleged to have been paid by him, and the evidences of such as the barbers and tailors of this Bawa, as well as of the mohsullee sepoy Essoo, who is not my servant, were taken, in which this Bawa appeared to have made an attempt in causing my name to be stated by them falsely; but if this Bawa's own evidence and all the other circumstances be weighed seriously, I humbly trust that all these false accusations which have been laid against me by several of the conspirators may be quashed off.

Bawa should have received the hoondee and squandered the amount of it in any bad action, as he appeared to have received the different sums as loans from several of the witnesses, and if I had received the contents of the hoondee, this document should have been receipted by me, and then sent with any of my servants for its recovery, as is customary with the sowcars, or my name should have been entered in the account-books. A person such as myself would not trust a man like Munguljee, who is used to go to the gambling-house, as stated by him in his own evidence. Kheta Hora and Gella Mheta, the former is an intimate friend and the latter is a brother to Captain J. T. Barr's sherustedar (Naka Mheta), and they are also favourite wukeels to this sherustedar. I cannot say with any certainty whether they must have made away with the money, or how, which ought to have been inquired into strictly, because all the people of this country are aware of the sherustedar's being influenced, and not the English clerks and accountants, who have generally submitted to their ill-treatment, and it is known in general that wherever ill people, such as Ununtjee, Kheta Hora, Bhuttoor, Veyneeram, and others are in power, innocence and integrity are sure to be persecuted, which should of course be obviated through your Honour's kind means. Wukeel Kheta Hora has two brothers, several nephews, and several other relations,

relations, some of whom are professing as wukeels, the others as bankers, and so on, and one or two of the Government native servants are keeping their pecuniary accounts with them, and all the native servants, like myself, are much fearful of them; if they should write down any false entry in any of the accounts of their shops, as they did in my present case, which will bring them to an ill end; therefore no stringent measures appear to have been taken by any one on their conduct. Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

That I have abstracted the evidence of all the necessary witnesses in nearly the words of the parties themselves; and I humbly submit, that the accusations have been proved to be utterly worthless and without foundation.

That the whole proceeding is the result of a conspiracy among the other Government servants to drive me from the district, in order to carry on their usual proceedings unmolested.

Will your Honour, therefore, investigate the case, and examine the testimony brought forward in the proceedings submitted to Government by Major Lang, that my character may be freed from the stain cast upon it by my suspension, and to be restored to the position acquired by 16 years' honest exertion in the service of the Honourable the East India Company; and

I remain, &c.

Rajcote, 9 April 1852. (signed) *Rugonath Ragoba*,
Head Accountant of the Political Agency in Katteewar.

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Blane* and the Honourable Mr. *Bell*. No. 4688.

I AM extremely obliged to my honourable colleagues, Messrs. Bell and Warden, for the trouble they have taken in reviewing this case. I concur generally in the conclusions at which they have arrived. These conclusions should be communicated to Major Lang, who may be at the same time requested to inform us whether, under the acquittal of Rugonath Rao, he would wish to retain that officer under him; and, if not, in what way he would propose to find employment for that individual in the Government service. The gold chain so often referred to should be delivered to Rugonath.

(signed) *Falkland.*
D. A. Blane.
21 May 1852. *A. Bell.*

No. 2582 of 1852.

To Major *William Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 64, dated the 10th April last, forwarding copy of a report from your first assistant, Captain Barr, with translation of the proceedings held by him in the investigation of charges of bribery preferred by Bhutoor Veneram against Rughonath Rao Raghoba, head accountant in the Katteewar Political Agency. Political Department.

2. The Right honourable the Governor in Council having reviewed the proceedings now submitted by you, and the arguments contained in your letter under acknowledgment, desires me to communicate to you in reply the following observations and instructions:

3. The first charge accuses Rughonath Rao of being the writer of a petition to Government, forwarded originally in Bhutoor's name, and afterwards with his feigned signature, although he had neither caused the one to be written, nor knew anything of the signature of the other.

4. Regarding the authorship of these petitions to Government, you remark that "there is no evidence whatever to implicate him (the accused), and no sufficient grounds even for suspicion against him." His Lordship in Council does not, therefore, consider any comment called for on this charge; but he cannot pass over the petition of Bhuttoor, recorded, No. 1, in the proceedings, without pointing out the great care which has evidently been bestowed in its preparation, and the precision with which the several proofs are referred to, even to the weight of the chain, and the pages of the chopras, or books of accounts,

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

accounts, in support of the accusations, strongly indicating that combination existed against the accused. It is much to be regretted that Bhuttoor was not subjected to a strict examination as to how and where he obtained his information on the accusations he has preferred against this Government servant.

5. The second charge is, that "Rughonath received a bribe of a gold chain and 200 rupees in money from a widow, named Udee, for assisting in effecting her purpose of disinheriting a nephew whom she had adopted and afterwards cast off."

6. The woman "Udee" disavows the giving of the chain, and she also denies having given the 200 rupees, and states the purpose for which the money was raised, namely, to defray the expenses of sending her daughter to her husband's house.

7. The chopras adduced in support of the item of 200 rupees, said to have been paid to "Udee," appears from the report (recorded, No. 25, in the proceedings) of a punchayet, composed of the karbarees of Bhownuggur and Moorvee, to be untrustworthy. From the erasures they contain, their validity is, in the opinion of Government, entirely vitiated.

8. The Right honourable the Governor in Council observes that many leading questions were put to several of the witnesses in the investigation into the second charge, eliciting the answers to be given; a course, I am desired to remark, which was highly improper.

9. In his explanation regarding the chain, the accused asserts that it was given to him by his sister's husband, Moroba Sudasew; a fact which could be established by the evidence of that person, but this was not taken. He also distinctly states that he has constantly worn the chain previous to Sumvut 1905, a fact which many persons are ready to depose to. The presumption then is, that if it were obtained in the manner represented by the informer, he would not have had the effrontery to have worn it in the public way he did.

10. You have considered it proper to keep the chain in the agency treasury, pending the orders of Government on the subject, and you recommend that it be given to the woman's nephew, Shunker Gungaram, who is said at one time to have been adopted by her, and is heir to the property after her death.

11. This chain, I am instructed to remark, either belongs to Udee (woman) or to the accused. Udee disavows having given it to the accused, and the accused himself says that it was given to him by his sister's husband. Admitting, then, the adoption of Shunker Gungaram to have been legal, he can have no claim as heir to the personal property until after his aunt's death. His Lordship in Council is therefore of opinion that the chain should be restored to the party from whom it was received, leaving it to the legal owner to recover the same from the party unlawfully in possession.

12. In the third charge, it is alleged "that the accused received a bribe of 400 rupees from a man named Sewadass, a Bawa, who complained of oppression experienced from the Joonagur authorities, and whose case he promised to bring to a satisfactory conclusion by exerting his influence with the authorities in question, and by affording advice and assistance in submitting it to the notice of the Political Agent."

13. The Bawa, by whom this item of 400 rupees is said to have been paid, is, his Lordship in Council observes, admitted to have borne a most disreputable character, and you state that had it not been for the strong corroboration afforded by the entry in Jeewan Nagjee's accounts, you yourself would have given the accused the full benefit of the many discrepancies in the evidence regarding this charge, and acquitted him of it altogether.

14. The Bawa deposes that the hoondee was given to Luckmeechund Shunkerdass, in order that the money might be paid to Rughoonath (the accused); that Munguljee took the money from Luckmeechund's shop, and told him (Bawa Jeewanjee) that he (Munguljee) had made it over to Rughoonath Rao.

15. The testimony of the last witness is put out of the question from the damaging character given of him by yourself in the 4th paragraph of your letter. Had, however, such not been the case, it must be borne in mind that the

the giver of a bribe can only be considered as a tainted witness. When Munguljee was first examined, he denied having received the amount of the hoondee; but, having been kept under arrest during the night, to prevent his communicating with other witnesses, on the following morning he expressed a wish to be again allowed to give his deposition, when he declared that both he and Mowjee, who discounted the hoondee, which had only two days to run, but at whose desire does not appear, went to Rughonath's (the accused) house, Mowjee carrying the money. Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

16. The receipt of the money, 400 rupees, that is, 398 rupees, less the discount, is clearly traced to Munguljee and Mowjee, and they further admit it; the fact of its being paid to the accused, rests entirely on the assertion of these two interested witnesses, who naturally have to account for the disposal of the amount, and which they unscrupulously assert was paid by them to the accused Rugoonath Rao, "although neither of them admitted this when first questioned on the subject," and "Munguljee had been kept a night in confinement."

17. The evidence of these persons is also distrusted by you, and, consequently, the only proof which can be found in support of this (the third) charge is, the report of the punchayet, and to which you attach so much credit, but which, considering the informal way in which the accounts appear to have been kept, is held by his Lordship in Council to be undeserving of all confidence. It is not improbable that these accounts may be what is termed "tam khatta," which is nothing more than loose sheets of paper, and well suited for transactions like the present. It has been observed by the accused, in his explanation, and in the opinion of Government most justly, that, from the nature of his duties, he is precluded from interfering in the business of the province, which is conducted by the sheristadars and readers of the native papers; so that whatever influence he may have possessed, he had no opportunity of exercising it.

18. Government, I am desired to state, has seldom reviewed a case so devoid of conclusive proof against the accused, or, in fact, so unsatisfactorily conducted as the present one; and, after an attentive consideration of the evidence adduced against the accused, his Lordship in Council sees strong grounds for impugning the justice of the conviction recorded in this case.

19. The evidence abounds with discrepancies, which are more in number and greater in importance than might reasonably be expected in a case of this nature, and establish in the opinion of Government the presence of combination or conspiracy. The accused, moreover, appears not to have been allowed the privilege of examining his own witnesses.

20. The Right honourable the Governor in Council accordingly annuls the conviction of the accused, and directs that you will point out to your assistant the defective nature of this inquiry; at the same time reminding him, that resorting to restraint, or any other unusual measures in relation to witnesses, always defeats its own object, by raising suspicion with respect to their evidence.

21. I am desired to request that you will report whether, under this acquittal of Rughonath Rao, you would wish to retain him in your office, and, if not, that you will state in what way you would propose to find employment for him in the service of Government.

I have, &c.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 8 June 1852.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, August 1852.

PETITION from *Ragonath Ragoba*, Head Accountant of the Political Agency in Katteewar, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council of Bombay,

Sheweth,

THAT on the 17th December last a charge was preferred against your petitioner to Captain J. T. Barr, second assistant political agent, by one Bhuttoor Veyneeram,

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

Veyneeram, for sending a petition to Government in the name of the said Bhuttoor Veyneeram, and for receiving bribes from two persons named Baee Adee and Bawa Sewadass.

That this accusation is the result of a conspiracy amongst the servants of Sirkar and others, natives of the country, to drive out petitioner, who is a stranger and a native of Bombay, and has declined to associate with them and mix himself up in their intrigues.

That the charge was brought before the Second Assistant Political Agent, when, in due course, it ought to have been before the First Assistant, or before the Political Agent; but the sherustedar of Captain Barr is petitioner's enemy, and this plan was adopted that he might have the conducting of the investigation, and thus prop up prosecutor's case.

That all the ordinary rules prescribed both by law and justice were disregarded in the investigation of petitioner's case.

That the witnesses were examined in petitioner's absence, and sometimes secretly; that petitioner had no opportunity of confronting them, and of observing their manner, and of directing his questions accordingly; that the testimony of some was not even read to petitioner.

That some of the witnesses were imprisoned; to others, harshness practised, according as their testimony became favourable to petitioner, on the ground, as represented by his enemies and the sherustedar, that the witnesses were tampered with by petitioner; that they had before stated differently; but all restraint was removed as soon as their evidence went against petitioner, so that the witnesses thought that it was the wish of Sirkar that they should give their testimony against petitioner.

That, notwithstanding all these advantages, the said Bhuttoor Veyneeram has totally failed in establishing these charges.

That the charge relative to the petition was not proceeded with, which, in itself, is a proof of its falsity, for there could be very little difficulty in proving that the handwriting was that of petitioner, if it were so, as Bhuttoor Veyneeram states.

That the first instance of receiving bribes is as follows: "That Adee, wife of Bhutt Nuthoo, presented to petitioner a gold chain, with a view of not giving over the property to her adopted son."

That the evidence of Adee on this point does not support the charge in any respect, looked at in the most unfavourable light to petitioner; it shows that she lent a chain like the one produced to petitioner's wife, and did not take it back in consequence of the acquaintance. The rest of her evidence completely removes every ground for this charge; for, after being solemnly warned and accused of allowing herself to be tampered with by petitioner, and having received six days' time to deliberate, and a sepoy being placed as sentinel over her door, on being brought forward again, and again warned, she repeats what she before stated, that she sold her chain and jewels to wandering goldsmiths about 15 months before; that her first evidence was false; that she was instigated to it by Naka Mheta, sherustedar of Captain Barr.

That the evidence of the adopted son of Adee, who says that the chain is hers, is evidently false; for he makes your petitioner send a servant, Ladha, to tell him not to make any complaint about the matter, otherwise he would be sent to gaol, as if any man would make his servant privy to his receiving bribes, or send him upon such an errand.

That the evidence of the goldsmith, who is stated to have made the chain, proves nothing; he states that the chain appears to have been made by him, and produces a book purporting to contain an account of a transaction 13 years old, but without the day of the month, nor does he know in whose handwriting the account is; after upwards of 13 years' use, the chain seems to have lost nothing of its weight.

The second goldsmith testifies that after your petitioner returning from Bombay, he weighed and valued this chain; that his evidence is most minute and exact in describing when he attached the hanging bead; and that chains of this kind were at first made only in Bombay, but in that country only "since camp of sirkar was established."

That it is most improbable that petitioner would thus wear and publicly display a chain received in this way, which many people must have known to belong

belong to Adee, and which petitioner could so easily have destroyed the identity of, and sold through his family in Bombay. Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

That the second instance of receiving bribes is, "that the sum of 200 rupees was caused to be paid, the widow to raise the money having pledged her ornaments with one Jahwur Nagjee, who procured this sum from Hurruckchund Pragjee."

The evidence of the widow Adee is positive in this instance, and completely exonerates petitioner; "that she pledged her jewels for 200 rupees to defray the expense of despatching her daughter to her husband's house, when the amount was received from her recovery; she repaid it, and redeemed her jewels; that having redeemed them she sold them and the chain, and paid the money to petitioner, who gave it to Jahwur, and having received from him her jewels, delivered them to her that very day."

That the evidence of Jahwur Nagjee is so full of contradictions, and his account books kept in such a way, the entries being made long after the transactions took place to which they purport to refer, and erasures relating to the very same circumstances being found, the slightest credit cannot be attached to it for a moment; the only circumstance that appears clear and so far agrees with the evidence of Adee is, that Jahwur received from the hands of petitioner 225 rupees to redeem Adee's jewels, and in her presence; and what can be more probable than that Adee, knowing the difficulty of receiving jewels deposited as pledge, stated at the time that the money was for petitioner, a Government servant, in order to insure Jahwur's behaving honestly with respect to them, and also took care, when about to redeem them, that the money, both principal and interest, should be paid by him, and the jewels restored in her presence to guard against any extortion by Jahwur; that Adee was on terms of intimacy with the women of his house, looked upon him as a friend, and was in the habit of receiving alms from him; that even supposing Jahwur's evidence to be true in every respect, and his accounts to have been kept accurately, that there is not a shadow of proof that the 200 rupees were appropriated by petitioner, but merely that petitioner received 200 rupees, which he paid back with interest. The very worst inference that could be drawn against petitioner is, that he used the jewels as a pledge for obtaining a loan of 200 rupees, afterwards repaid with interest; that in the commencement of his evidence, Jahwur states, "he kept the jewels in pledge from Adee, and paid 200 rupees; she was saying to pay it to petitioner." Afterwards he states, "that Adee told him he should pay it to Ragonath in her behalf." In his first account of the restoration of the jewels, he states, "she came to his house, and said that he should receive the money and give the jewels; then he told that it is better, after which he took the jewels and went to her house; then she said that he should go with her, she would cause the money to be paid; after which he went with her to Ragonath's house." In his second account of the same transaction, he states, "Cursonjee gave him the jewels which were with him at his house, which he took and went to Ragonath's house at that time. Bhutt Nuthor's wife Adee was there, plainly contradicting thus his first account; it is stated in charge, that Jahwur got this money from Hurruckchund Pragjee, yet he himself states that when he received money from petitioner, he went and paid to Cursonjee, who followed him and gave him the jewels; thus it would appear that the money had been received from Cursonjee, and not from Hurruckchund Pragjee. In the first part of his evidence, he states, "that he took the jewels and went with Adee to the house of Ragonath to be paid;" in the latter he states that "he was paid by Ragonath, then gave the money to Cursonjee, from whom he received the jewels, and brought them to Ragonath's house, where Adee was at that time."

That it will be only necessary to allude to the report of the punchayet on Jahwur's account books to show how great a fabrication the whole affair is. They report that there is an entry of money paid to Ragonath under the account of a third party, whose name is not entered for months afterwards, this third party being the husband of Adee, Bhutt Nuthoo, a man many years dead; that the entry was first made in Bhutt Nuthoo's account as of money to be paid to Rajyshrie; that this name has been erased; that the item of 225 rupees has been entered as received out of 400 rupees from petitioner. This entry, even if true, must refer to a different transaction.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

This witness has admitted that he is a relation of Lalljee Paruck, petitioner's enemy, and one of the chief conspirators.

Petitioner directs attention to the fact, that there is no record of evidence of Hurruckchund Pragjee, from whom the money is stated to have been received, though he was examined.

The third instance of receiving bribes is, that "one Bawa Sewadass having obtained a hoondee for 400 rupees from a sowkar, Dosee Roopsee Mooljee, of Jetpoor, on a sowkar, Luckhoo Sunkerdass, sent it to your petitioner, who received the money of it through Mungulsee Goma."

That Bawa Sewadass, in his evidence, states "that he gave a hoondee for 400 rupees at the shop of Luckhoo Sunkerdass, for giving money to Rugonath; afterwards Mungulsee took the money from the shop, and told him that he paid it to Ragonath." Again he says, "the hoondee was for 300 rupees;" in another part, he declares positively, "that he never paid the sum of 100 rupees after he gave this hoondee; that he did not pay this sum at the shop of Luckhoo Sunkerdass; that he once went to the shop himself, but shopkeeper said that the sight of note was not yet expired; that he should come at the expiration," (Mowjee, the clerk, denies this positively in his evidence); "he did not give the silver articles and the clothes to any one." In his evidence on the 9th February, contradicting himself, he says, "that Munguljee repaid the sum of 100 rupees to the sowkar;" being confronted with Munguljee, he denied that he knew anything about 100 rupees; on this same day contradicting a former statement, "that when he came to petitioner, petitioner told him he would do this business; therefore the money was paid." He states, "that when he asked petitioner to return his documents, then petitioner said that if he paid him he would return the documents; that these documents were kept by petitioner, with Doongersee Shett through Bulwuntraie, which witness got by a note from petitioner upon him (Bulwuntraie)." This statement is contradicted by both Doongersee and Bulwuntraie in their examination on the 9th March; the latter adds that the story is altogether false.

Even if the documents were deposited with petitioner, why should he deem it requisite to leave them with another person? No suspicion or blame could attach to petitioner from having the custody of the documents of a person in no way connected with the discharge of his duties.

Munguljee, who is described as having paid the money to your petitioner, states, on 29th December, that a Bawa, whose name he does not know, nor where he lives, nor recollects where he resides, met him, and told him that he had a duplicate hoondee upon Luckhoo Sunkerdass; that he told him to come with him, and that he would get it cashed; the money was received before sight of the duplicate, and discount must have been paid; he never got a hoondee accepted before. It is most improbable that a stranger would tell him he had the hoondee, and that a native banker would cash it for a man who never before got such an instrument accepted, and without having received advice from the drawer.

This witness also denies knowing anything about who paid the 100 rupees, or why Bawa received the money. On second day examination, he states, "that petitioner himself gave him the hoondee for 400 rupees, to get it cashed at the shop of Luckhoo, and that he brought the money with Mowjee Luckmeechund's goomasta."

Mowjee, being examined, states, "that Bawa was not present when the money was paid to Munguljee, nor had he been in the shop before that time;" that witness and Munguljee came to petitioner's house, and paid petitioner the money, and petitioner became security; yet witness entered Munguljee's name as having received the money, and made no entry of petitioner being the security for it. He states that 100 rupees was paid back by Munguljee, on account of Bawa Sewadass. Munguljee being brought face to face, denies knowing anything of this payment; that if he had paid it, his name should be entered as the person through whom it was paid.

Dhurma, a Banian servant, being examined on 8th January, states that there was a dealing between him and his master, for which he gave him a note of 400 rupees on Luckhoo Sunkerdass; that he has been discharged; does not know how his master spent this money. The master, Sewadass, being produced, states that there is no account of the transaction in his account books, and

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

and that the accounts have not been made up between him and his servant for two years or two years and a half.

That the punchayet, having examined the account-book of Luckhoo Sunkerdass, reported that an item of 400 rupees has been disbursed to the head of Dosee Roopsee Mooljee, but the exact date cannot be discovered; or another book was shown, containing a similar entry, but no date; but the item, "Poush Vud, 13 or 14," might have been entered above and below this item.

That a translation of a letter from the drawer of the hoondee, Roopsee Mooljee, to the drawee, addressing him to accept for only 300 rupees, has been given in evidence, bearing date Sumvut 1908, Poush Shoudh 8th, while the 300 rupees has been credited since the year previous, 1907.

That a great many witnesses were examined to prove the communication between the widow Adee and your petitioner, and between Bawa Sewadass and petitioner, and to establish other issues not material to the charges; but if their evidence were commented upon in detail, it would infringe too much upon the time of the Honourable the Governor; and petitioner can only state that it is equally contradictory, and equally unworthy of reliance, as that before quoted.

That it has not been proved that petitioner ever did anything to advance the interests of those parties from whom he has been accused of receiving bribes, or that petitioner had power in any way to serve them.

That petitioner has abstracted the evidence of all the necessary witnesses, in nearly the words of the parties themselves; and petitioner humbly submits that the accusations have been proved to be utterly worthless and without foundation.

That the whole proceeding is the result of a conspiracy among the other Government servants to drive petitioner from the district, in order to carry on their usual proceedings unmolested.

That if there were no proof furnished by the evidence that the case is a fabricated one, it would be plain from the very minuteness of the charges, the number of ornaments, the exact weight of each, the name of the maker, the account book, the page of the account-book purporting to record the transaction (one of these 13 years old), being specified with an apparent accuracy of detail that can leave no doubt but that the whole is the result of a wide-laid combination.

That the whole power of the Government, through the means of the sherustedar of Captain Barr, was employed against the witnesses whose testimony was in favour of petitioner.

That petitioner prays the Honourable the Governor in Council will investigate the case, and examine the testimony brought forward, that petitioner's character may be freed from the stain cast upon it by his suspension, and petitioner restored to the position acquired by 16 years' honest exertion in the service of the Honourable East India Company.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

(signed) *Rugunath Ragoba.*

Rajcote, 9 April 1852.

No. 1736 of 1852.—Political Department.

Referred to the Political Agent in Kattywar for report, to be written below.

By order of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council.

(signed) *H. E. Goldsmid,*
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 24 April 1852.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

Government, No. 113 of 1852.—General, No. 255.—Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Kattewar to *Arthur Malet*, Esquire, Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir, Camp, Joonaghur, 24 June 1852.

1. With reference to Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's order of the 24th April last, on the accompanying petition from Rugonath Rao Ragoba, head accountant of this agency, complaining of the late accusations of bribery against him being entirely the result of a conspiracy, and also finding fault with the manner in which these accusations were investigated, I have the honour to inform you, that the ground of defence taken up in this petition, as regards the sum of 200 rupees stated to have been given to him by the woman Adee, is so completely at variance with that before adopted, and with the positive and repeated assertions of the accused to me, that he knew nothing whatever of the transactions entered in Juwere Nagjee's accounts in his name, that I considered it proper, before replying to the petition in question, to ascertain from Rugonath Rao whether he admitted having written it; and I beg to forward copy of the letter I addressed in consequence to my assistant, Captain Barr, on the subject, and of that officer's reply.

2. Although myself fully satisfied of the falsehood of the woman Adee's assertions of her having sold the articles which were pawned to raise this money, to some travelling merchants, the new line of defence set up by the accused in this instance seemed also to render it necessary that I should ascertain more positively, for the information of Government, the exact dates of her father's and brother's deaths, as she all along persisted in declaring that this sale had been effected through them. I have only lately been able to obtain trustworthy evidence on this point, which has prevented my replying at an earlier date to Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's reference on the subject; and having since been favoured with the decision of Government on the report and proceedings formerly submitted in this case, I now feel it my duty, in justice to others, and to the public interests, to trouble you with a more lengthened reply than I should otherwise have considered at all necessary.

3. Rugonath, in his petition to Government, which is returned herewith, states as follows: "That the evidence of Juwere Nagjee is so full of contradictions, and his account-books kept in such a way, the entries being made long after the transactions took place to which they purport to refer, and erasures relating to the very same circumstances being found, the slightest credit cannot be attached to it for a moment; the only circumstance that appears clear, and so far agrees with the evidence of Adee, is that Juwere received from the hands of petitioner 225 rupees, to redeem Adee's jewels, and in her presence; and what can be more probable than that Adee, knowing the difficulty of receiving jewels deposited as pledge, stated at the time that the money was for petitioner, a Government servant, in order to ensure Juwere's behaving honestly with respect to them, and also took care, when about to redeem them, that the money, both principal and interest, should be paid by him, and the jewels restored in her presence, to guard against any extortion by Juwere? The evidence of Adee, quoted in the petition, with which this is stated to agree, is as follows: "That she pledged her jewels for 200 rupees, to defray the expense of despatching her daughter to her husband's house; when the amount was received from her recovery, she repaid it, and redeemed her jewels; that having redeemed them, she sold them and the chain, and paid the money to petitioner, who gave it Juwere, and having received from him her jewels, delivered them to her that very day." This is a misquotation, however, and involves the absurdity of redeeming the jewels twice. The correct version of this part of the woman's evidence is that "she gave the rupees to Rugonath, and he gave them to Juwere."

4. The admission contained in these extracts must, I think, be allowed to go far to corroborate the last entry at least in Juwere Nagjee's accounts, regarding the redemption of the jewels by Rugonath Rao, on the payment of the sum of 225 rupees; and the petitioner, in his examination of Juwere's evidence, goes on to state, that even supposing it and the entries in the accounts

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Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

to be correct as regards the other item also, "there is not a shadow of proof that the 200 rupees were appropriated by petitioner, but merely that petitioner received 200 rupees, which he paid back with interest." Now this is so far true; and in the third paragraph of my former report I have alluded to the possibility, which I at first thought there might be, of explaining these transactions with the woman Adee, without involving Rugonath Rao in the serious charge which had been made against him; but after the repeated opportunities that were given him to explain the matter, and his continued denial to me that he knew anything whatever about any of the transactions in question, it will now, I imagine, be considered too late to admit any such explanation as that given in his petition to Government, unless at least its truth can be satisfactorily established.

5. So far from this, however, there is ample proof that the woman Adee's assertions regarding the sale of the chain and the jewels, after the redemption of the latter, to certain wandering goldsmiths, are altogether false. The ornaments were released from pawn on the 30th January 1851, and Adee states that she sold them about a month afterwards, through the agency of her brother, Bhowan. In a subsequent examination, she says she sold them through her father and brother, the former of whom she admits to have died 12 months before the date of her deposition, or about the beginning of January 1851, and the latter about three months before that. As already stated, however, I have considered it necessary to obtain what further evidence was procurable on this point; and I beg now to submit translation of the statement of Adee's brother, who resides in the village of Mewassa, in the Noanuggur talooka, on the subject. From this it would appear that Adee's father died about the 1st February 1851, and her brother Bhowan so far back as September 1849, and although there is some mistake in the day of the week stated in the deposition as that on which the last-mentioned event occurred, it cannot, I should think, be wrong as to the year, as the deponent states his father's death to have occurred three or four months after the anniversary of that of his brother. Adee likewise mentions that the principal sums expended from the amount she realized from the sale of her chain and jewels were in presents to the Gosamjee Maharaj of Noanuggur, when he came to Rajcote, 15 or 20 days after she had sold the things. I have ascertained, however, that the last time this Gosamjee visited Rajcote was about the month of February 1848, and he passed through my camp at Hulwud, in the northern part of Kattywar, in the middle of January 1851, on his way to Muthra, in Upper India, from whence he has not yet returned.

6. As regards the report of the punchayet on the entries in Juwere Nagjee's accounts, which is alluded to in the 7th and 17th paragraphs of Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's letter of the 8th instant, I beg respectfully to observe, that neither of the karbarees I got to examine these entries had any doubt as to the insertion of Rugonath Rao's name having been made in the entries containing it at the time the accounts in question were written, and the subsequent insertion of Bhut Nuthoo's name in the space which had been left for it, however irregular and improper, tends, I think, rather to prove the genuineness of the rest of the entry. The erasure alluded to in the report of the punchayet would have been more correctly described as the blotting out, with ink, of the words Rajshree and something else, not now legible, apparently for the purpose of concealing the name of the party to whom the money had been paid. At the time, moreover, when these first entries were made in Juwere Nagjee's accounts, which corresponds with the 16th April 1849, this individual and Rugonath Rao were on the best of terms, in proof which I beg now to submit the translation of a note of recommendation to my dufturdar, which was written by Rugonath Rao in favour of Juwere Nagjee about a month after the date of the said entries, but not presented, as the dufturdar happened to be absent from my camp at the time. A similar note was, I believe, addressed by Rugonath Rao, on the same occasion, to my sheristadar, although this is not admitted by either of them.

7. With reference to the 9th paragraph of Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's letter, it is proper to mention, that in the course of this investigation it was suggested to me by some one, most probably Captain Barr, that it would be advisable to get the statement of the persons therein alluded to as the giver of the chain to

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

Rugonath Rao. In consequence of the denial by Adee, however, of her former assertion, that she had lent the chain to Rugonath's wife, there was no longer any legal proof against the accused on this point; and as no regular trial of the case was held, I should not, I imagine, have been justified in summoning Moroba Sudasew to attend at Rajcote for examination. His written statement might, of course, have been procured through the magistrate of Bombay; but I am free to confess, that the assertion of so near a connexion, that he had given Rugonath this chain, would not have sufficed to remove from my mind the moral conviction, which I cannot but feel, that it is the same which belonged to Adee; and I think it must be admitted that there are the strongest grounds for this impression in the woman's own assertion on the subject; her repetition of it when questioned by Rugonath himself; her demonstrably false statement subsequently given about the sale of the chain and other articles, and the manner in which a large portion of the money realized thereby had been expended. Add to all this the woman's description of her chain having no hanging ornaments attached to it; the account given by the Sonee Mor who weighed the chain for Rugonath Rao, of his having shortly afterwards attached an ornament to it; and the statement of the woman's nephew, that the ornament on the chain, when shown to him during the investigation, is not the same which it had when he saw it some years before, which was yellow. As regards the effrontery of Rugonath Rao in wearing a chain obtained in this way, it must not be forgotten, that natives generally wear ornaments of this kind under their angrikas, and not, therefore, much exposed to view, and however much this may be considered in his favour, it will not, I think, be denied, that the effrontery of his accusers, in declaring the chain to be the same, if it was not so, must have been a hundred fold greater, considering the certainty almost in that case of its being disproved, and the sufficiency for a false accusation of leaving us to discover the chain as best we could.

8. Adverting to the concluding part of the 11th paragraph of Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's letter, I beg to state, that if this chain is restored to Rugonath Rao, the legal owner therein alluded to has no other course open to him for recovering it but an application to the officers of this Agency. It cannot, I conclude, be intended that the Rajcote town authorities should be allowed to interfere in a case of the kind, pending between one of their subjects and a servant of the British Government; and if any further test of the ownership of the chain is to be resorted to, it would appear advisable that this should be done before it is restored, as the fact of its restoration to Rugonath Rao, after the investigation which has already taken place regarding it, would seem effectually to debar any further proceedings on the subject in this Agency. I proposed that it should be given to Adee's nephew, as she herself disclaimed it; and although, according to the custom of this province, she has a full right to retain possession of all the property during her lifetime, she is not entitled to make away with any portion of it improperly to the detriment of the next of kin or heir after her death. I am sanguine that this further report will satisfy Government that I had ample grounds for this suggestion, but if it still be considered that this would be unjust towards Rugonath Rao, I would respectfully recommend that the case should be disposed of as any other dispute regarding stolen property would, in the absence of sufficient proof, be settled in this province, and that Rugonath Rao should receive back the chain if he will take an oath on the Geeta, or in any other manner which may be agreed upon between the parties, that it is not the one which belonged to the woman Adee. If, however, he declines to do so, the chain would then require to be given up to the woman's nephew, as formerly proposed, on his taking the same oath that it was hers. The restoration of this chain to Rugonath Rao will, I fear, produce the worst possible effect in this province; but the administration beforehand to his further test of the right thereto would tend, I hope, to counteract this in some degree, by showing that every practicable means had first been taken to ascertain the truth, and to satisfy the claimant according to the custom of the country. I trust, therefore, that my retaining the chain in the treasury till I am favoured with your further instructions on the subject will be approved of by Government.

9. The entry in Juwere Nagjee's accounts, which is so strongly corroborated by the admission made in Rugonath Rao's petition now under report, regarding the

the payment, through him, of the money for the redemption of Adee's ornaments, is the one which tended so much, in my mind, to confirm the other evidence in the remaining accusation of bribery against Rugonath Rao. The fact of a Mohsul sepoy, who was much with the accused, having been sent to the Bawee's village about the money in this case, was, in my opinion, another very strong corroborative circumstance, and it was only a few months after the transaction in question that this sepoy lost his situation on the Mohsullee establishment, by proceeding to Bombay, without leave, in order to join Rugonath Rao, who had gone there in consequence of some marriage in his family. It is also necessary to remember, that one of the parties to whom Government considers that the money was clearly traced in this case, was the goomashta of the firm which cashed the hoondee, and not, therefore, very likely to have joined with the other man, Munguljee, in appropriating the money. I am fully sensible, however, of the many glaring discrepancies in the evidence on this charge; but the feeling of reluctance, which is universal in this province, to bear witness, in any case of corruption, against our Government servants, appeared to me to be the principal cause of them, and it is more remarkable in the present instance, as it is clear, from the circumstances remarked by Government in the petition of the accuser, Bhutoor Veneeram, that he must beforehand have had access to all the account-books he quoted from, which could not, of course, have been obtained without the privity of those to whom they belonged. I fear, however, we shall have to wait long before the more respectable people of the country come forward themselves to endeavour to put a stop to the prevalence of bribery and corruption amongst the native functionaries of Government, injurious as many of them must feel it to be to their best interests.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

10. I trust I may also be permitted to offer a few words of explanation regarding the detention of the witness Munguljee Goa for one night under restraint, for which my assistant, Captain Barr, has been so much blamed by the Honourable Board. It will be seen from this witness's first statement that he denied all knowledge of the receipt of the money from the sowcar Luchmeechund Shunkerdass, whose account-books, however, clearly proved that it had been paid to him, and as what had just before occurred with the woman Adee showed beyond a doubt that she had been tampered with after returning home from her first examination, it would, I humbly contend, have been a most unwise proceeding on Captain Barr's part not to have adopted the necessary precautions to prevent this witness, who had commenced with a decidedly false statement, from communicating with any of the parties concerned, till he could fully examine him and confront him with such other witnesses as might be requisite, to endeavour to elicit the truth. It is also, I observe, stated that the accused was not allowed the privilege of examining his own witnesses, but I am altogether unable to understand to what this can refer, unless it be to the evidence of Moroba Sudasew, which was never, I assure you, at all urged to be sent for by Rugonath Rao, otherwise I should have written for it as a matter of course.

11. It now only remains for me to notice some of the very unfounded allegations contained in Rugonath Rao's petition, which, I regret to observe, commences and ends by calumniating his fellow-servants in this Agency, as having conspired against him in the present case because he would not "mix himself up in their intrigues." In reply to this I can only state, that as far as I have had the means of judging, I believe the assertion to be altogether false, and as regards intrigue, there is no native in the service of Government in this province that I have ever had so much reason to suspect of practising it as Rugonath Rao himself. I have had complaints of this kind against him almost ever since he came to the province, and have frequently heard him accused of having had much to do with different anonymous petitions which have from time to time been sent in to Government, but I never could get any proof on the subject, and entirely discredited the accusations of intriguing which I heard against him, till he sent me an application, on the native agency becoming vacant by the dismissal of the late native agent Bhugwan Laul, to succeed to that situation, for which I need scarcely say that I considered him quite unfit. I took the earliest opportunity after this of warning him very seriously against lending himself to any kind of intriguing, which, however, he loudly denied ever having done. No accusations or insinuations, even of bribery, were ever made to me against him

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

before the present charge, but I have every reason to believe that he was always much given to meddling with business that he had nothing to do with, and the introductions I have alluded to as having been given to Juwere Nagjee showed a most improper exercise of this practice, for that individual was then coming to my camp as the agent of the old Baee of Than, in her continued efforts to injure the present young Thacore of that place and his mother. The false impression which Rugonath Rao has by this and other means succeeded in creating in this province, that he is possessed of influence both for good and evil, is greater than would be readily believed, and fully accounts for the resort to him of some of the parties in the present case, which Government is naturally enough at a loss to understand. Rugonath Rao is therefore the last man in this Agency who should accuse other people of intriguing; and justice to them forces me to repeat at greater length what I shortly alluded to in my former report, for I believe that the petitioner must look to some of his former friends in intrigue and not to any of his fellow-servants, as the principal parties who have been concerned against him in the present accusations of bribery.

12. The assertion contained in Rugonath Rao's petition that the case was purposely brought before Captain Barr to get his sheristedar's assistance in support of it, and ought instead to have come before the first assistant or myself, is another misrepresentation which I am sorry to have to characterize as wilful. The petitioner knows well that Captain Aston left Rajcote on his way to the Cape of Good Hope just as the investigation commenced, the same day, I believe, and that Captain Barr was requested by me to undertake the inquiry, as I was myself busily employed with trials and other pressing duty. The complaints made about the treatment of witnesses are also entirely unfounded, beyond what is recorded in the proceedings, and I took the greatest care myself to give Rugonath Rao the fullest opportunity of questioning all the witnesses in my own presence, and furnished him with copies of the whole of the proceedings the moment he asked for them.

13. There are numerous other mistakes made in the petition, which it would be tedious to notice at length. The chain, for instance, is stated to appear by the proceedings not to have lost weight at all since it was first made 13 years before, whereas it is mentioned in Captain Barr's rozkam to weigh now only 18 gudyanas, and appears by the Sonee's accounts to have been originally three quarters of a gudyana and one and a half wals greater in weight. The two transactions with Juwere Nagjee, one in 1849 and the other in 1851, are confounded together to make it appear that two different sowcars, Hurreekchund and Kursunjee, are mentioned by Juwere Nagjee as the party from whom he received the sum of 200 rupees first paid to Rugonath; but unsatisfactory as Juwere Nagjee's evidence certainly is, there is no such contradiction in it as this. The petitioner complains of the evidence of Hurreekchund Progjee not being on the proceedings, although he is stated to have been examined. His deposition does not appear, however, to have been taken, but his books and those of Kursunjee were shown to the punchayut and the entries in them fully substantiated the accounts and the statement given by Juwere Nagjee. The letter alluded to from the drawer of the hoondee written in St. 1908, advising him to accept for only 300 rupees, although the said amount had been credited since St. 1907, is not the letter of advice, as asserted, but a reply, written at the time it is dated, to a reference which had been made to the drawer of the hoondee on the subject.

14. Under all the circumstances now reported, it will not, of course, be expected, with reference to the concluding paragraph of Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's letter, that I should recommend Rugonath Rao as still deserving to remain in his present situation, but I am not aware of any other Government employment which he could obtain. He is, as I stated in my former report, one of the best accountants and men of business in his own department that I have ever known; but I doubt his qualification for any other kind of employment, and his knowledge of English is rather imperfect. If Government is still of opinion, however, that I have not sufficient grounds for the strong conviction I entertain of his misconduct in the present case, far be it from me to urge his removal from the situation he now fills; but if permitted to remain in it he ought, I think, to be again seriously warned against meddling in any of the native business pending in this

this province, and distinctly informed that if hereafter discovered in any kind of intrigue he will be immediately dismissed from the service of Government.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

15. I deem it my duty to inform you, that the decision of Government in this case was known at Rajcote from some other source as soon as Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's letter reached this office.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Lang*,
Political Agent.

Kattiawar Political Agency,
Camp, Joonaghur,
24 June 1852.

P.S.—I have not alluded in this report to a memorandum which was produced by the woman Adee some time after the proceedings were closed, purporting to be a statement of her account in the handwriting of Juwere Nagjee for the 200 rupees borrowed from him on a mortgage of her ornaments, with interest, calculated at nine per cent., up to 9 Shrawun Sood, St. 1906, several months before the things were redeemed. There are several suspicious circumstances attending it which I have been unable to get satisfactorily cleared up, but it is unnecessary further to trouble Government on the subject, as the only point this memorandum seems clearly to establish is the borrowing of the money at the time stated in the proceedings, and of that I imagine no doubt will now be entertained.

(signed) *W. Lang*,
Political Agent.

No. 173 of 1852.

From the Political Agent in Kattiawar to Captain *J. T. Barr*, Assistant Political Agent, Rajcote.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 26th March last, reporting on the accusations of bribery against the head accountant, Rugonath Rao, and to the proceedings which accompanied it, I have the honour to send you an original petition to Government in the name of that individual, and as some of the statements it contains are so entirely at variance with the defence set up by Rugonath at the time, I should like, before replying to it, to know whether he admits it to have been written and signed by him; I shall therefore feel obliged by your sending for Rugonath Rao and ascertaining this for me, and if he admits the petition to be his, I shall feel further obliged by your sending me any observations you may have to offer on the different allegations it contains, as it would appear from the date of the order referring it for report, that it must have been despatched after the receipt of your former letter and proceedings in the case, and some of the assertions made in it are, moreover, such as require reply.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. Lang*,
Political Agent.

Kattiawar Political Agency,
Camp, Heerakote,
3 May 1852.

To the Political Agent in Kattiawar.

Sir,

Having this day questioned Rugonath Rao Ragoba, in accordance with the directions contained in your letter No. 173, dated 3d instant, regarding the original petition to Government which accompanied it, I have the honour to inform you that he admits the signature appended thereto to be his, and that he states that the petition itself was written for him by a relative in Bombay.

2. The petitioner, I perceive, reiterates the statements often previously made, that the accusations had been trumped up by enemies bent upon his ruin, that the proceedings had been unfairly conducted by me, and that my sheristadar had tampered with some of the witnesses, being prompted to such unworthy conduct by motives of ill-will; but as I have already noticed the only one of these complaints which I considered worthy of remark, that against my sheris-

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

tadar, I need not now advert to them, for you are aware that the steps I took in the investigation were necessary to ensure a searching one, and that Rugonath had every possible indulgence afforded him for rebutting the charges preferred against him.

3. In this petition, although much is put forth to prove, if possible, that the chain belonging to the woman Udee cannot be the same as that found on the person of Rugonath, no attempt is made to clear up the point by calling for a reference to the relation in Bombay whom he confidently named, when questioned here, as the individual who gave the chain he was in the habit of wearing, and this but tends to confirm the suspicion of guilt I have already declared. The defence now set up with regard to the bribe of 200 rupees, is completely at variance with that made use of during the investigation of the case, for all referring to the money is admitted except the retention of it, whereas formerly the petitioner maintained utter ignorance of the whole transaction.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Rajcote, 10 May 1852. Assistant Political Agent.

(True copies.)
(signed) W. Lang,
Political Agent.

Bhugwan Kesowjee, by religion, Hindoo; caste Brahmin Singhor; profession, Beggar; aged about 19 years; Inhabitant of the village of Mewasa, Purgunna Kundorua, Talooka Nuggur, states before Captain Barr, Acting First Assistant Political Agent in Kattiawar, as follows:

My father Kesowjee died on Posh Wud 30, Sumwut 1907 (1 February 1851), at the age of 70. His sight was impaired. When he had occasion to go to any village he used to do so on horseback, but even this he could not do without being accompanied by some one. My brother Bhuwan died on Asso Sood 4th, Sunday, Sn. 1906 (20 September 1849), and three or four months after his wurshee (annual ceremony performed in commemoration of the dead) was over my father also died. In our country the new year commences from the month of Ashar (July.) I do not recollect whether after the death of my brother Bhuwan my father Kesowjee came to Rajcote or not. The accounts of the expenses of the dara or funeral feasts of my brother Bhuwan I have rendered to Jubur Shet, the wywutdar or manager of Kundorna. I possess no accounts, however, of the dara of my father. The different articles required on that occasion were procured from my house. Sugar was purchased from a wuchyat or foreign trader, and no accounts were kept regarding these.

Q. In what village did your father die, and for how many days before his death was he confined to his house by sickness?—*A.* Kessowjee died at the village of Mewasa, and for seven days before his death he was confined to his bed.

11 June 1852.

Deponent again states that he does not know exactly whether the year changes in the month of Ashar or not.

Dated as above.

(signed) *Bhugwan Kessowjee.*
(signed) *J. T. Barr,*
Asst. Pol. Agent.

To *Meherban Rajeshree Shakursee Bhaee Poonjasha,* Camp Munoa.

Rugonath Rao Ragoba writes from Rajcote. Accept my best compliments. Further, we are all well here. Your letters regarding your welfare I have received by the dawk, and they have afforded me much pleasure, and I hope you will always, in this manner, be pleased to continue to favour me with your letters. I shall send you an answer to your letters by the dawk. Continue always to treat me with the same kindness as you have hitherto done. The bearer of this note is a very good and respectable man, and is a friend of mine, and treat him therefore with all due kindness, and should he wait on you at any time be pleased to treat him with that degree of kindness which he deserves. This is my prayer.

20 May 1849, A. D.

(True translations.)
(signed) *W. Lang,*
Political Agent.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

To the Right Honourable Lord Viscount *Falkland*, Governor and President in Council, Bombay.

My Lord,

In continuation with my defence given to Major Lang on the 26th January last, I have the honour to forward the accompanying copies of my testimonials, &c., granted to me by my late employers for the favourable consideration of Government, as they were omitted to be submitted to your Lordship in Council with my petition of the 9th instant, and

I remain, &c.
(signed) *Rugonath Ragoba*,
Suspended Head Accountant,
Katteewar Agency.

Rajcote, 16 April 1852.

Memorandum of Service.

As a writer in the office of the Adjutant to the detachment 9th Regt. N. I. - - - - - - - - - - - -	- - 2 years.
As accountant in the office of the superintendent of experimental cotton farm in Guzerat - - - - - - - - -	- - 1 year.
As writer and accountant in the sub-collector's office at Broach -	- - 4 years.
As officiating head clerk in the adawlut at Broach - - - -	- - 1 year.
As assistant book-keeper in the office of Messrs. Brownrigg & Co., Bombay - - - - - - - - - - - -	- - 3 years.
As head book-keeper in the office of Messrs. Brownrigg & Co., Bombay - - - - - - - - - - - -	- - 6 months.
As head accountant in the Katteewar Political Agency from 28 April 1846 to 9 March 1852 - - - - - - - - - -	--5 years, 10 months, and 9 days.
Total—Seventeen Years, Four Months, and Eight Days -	17 4 8

Certified, that the bearer, Rugoonath, performed the duties of purvoe in my office to my satisfaction.

(signed) *J. C. Wright*, Ensign,
Adjt. Detacht. 9th Regt. N. I., Broach.

25 October 1836.

The bearer of this note, Rugonath Ragoba, was employed by me in Guzerat, as an English writer and accountant, and in various other duties. I found him very intelligent and assiduous, and in the performance of any matter committed to his charge he gave me the highest satisfaction.

Bombay, 19 July 1842. (signed) *J. L. Johnson.*

This is to certify that Rugoonath Ragoba, English writer, served under me in the Broach sub-collectorate for nearly four years, during which period I have found him active and attentive to his duties. He understands Goozeratti, Maratti, and Balbhod, with colloquial Persian.

Bombay, 30 September 1842. (signed) *George Coles*, Sub-collector.

This is to certify that the bearer of this, Rugonath, English writer, served under me for one and a half month when I was in charge of the sub-collectorate. I found him of a willing disposition, and attentive to his duties.

Broach, 12 December 1839. (signed) *C. Price*, A. C.

Rugoonath, Broach, 19 March 1842.

A certificate from me would be of very little use to you ; but I must say, that during the two months I have been in charge of the adawlut here, I have found you always attentive to your duties, and well informed in them, and that you always gave me satisfaction, and I have no doubt but that others will find you the same.

Yours, &c.
(signed) *A. C. Stuart.*

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

EXTRACT from a Letter from *A. C. Stuart*, Esq., Assistant Revenue Commissioner, to *Rugoonath Ragoba*; dated Poonah, 6 September 1842.

I FORGET whether I gave you at Broach any certificate of my opinion of your qualifications, but in case I did not I may here add, that I consider you to be perfectly competent to fill the situation of head accountant or head English writer in any office, and that during the two months that you served under me, in the Broach adawlut, you showed yourself well acquainted with your duties, and discharged them entirely to my satisfaction.

I became acquainted with the bearer, Rugonath Ragoba, during a visit to Broach, and I have more than once seen him in Bombay. He has a good character among his countrymen, and is well spoken of by his European employers.

29 June 1842. (signed) *John Wilson.*

Bombay, 6 March 1846.

I HAVE known Rugonath Ragoba for the last three years, and have been much pleased with him, as a considerate, docile, and respectful person, in all the intercourse I have had with him. He knows much of Europeans, and his knowledge appears to have both favourably impressed and improved him. He knows Goozerati, Maratti, Hindoostanee, English, and a little Persian.

(signed) *R. Nesbit.*

THIS is to certify that Rugonath Ragoba has been employed by us for the last three years and a half, for three of which he acted as assistant book-keeper, and the last six months as head book-keeper in the office. He possesses a fair knowledge of book-keeping, and now obtains his discharge at his own request, in consequence of the climate of Bombay proving unfavourable to his health.

Bombay, 28 March 1846. (signed) *Brownrigg & Co.*

RUGOONATH RAGOBA, appointed head accountant to the Political Agent, Katteewar, by the Accountant-general, arrived here on the 28th April, and I doubt not, from his good character, will give every satisfaction.

9 May 1846. (signed) *A. Malet.*

Rugoonath Ragoba, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE duly received your letters, asking me to recommend you to Mr. Fawcett for the situation of foujdar of Ahmedabad. I have brought your application to the notice of that gentleman, who will, no doubt, give it due consideration, although there are so many applicants. I hope you may succeed, although I think it is very doubtful, as a Mussulman is usually appointed kotwal of that city. Wishing you every happiness, believe me to remain your friend and well-wisher.

Kaira, 8 August 1844. (signed) *N. Kirkland.*

EXTRACT of a Letter from *Maneeckjee Limjee*, Esq., to Sir *R. K. Arbuthnot*, Bart.; dated 9 October 1844.

I HAVE perused Rugoonath's certificates, from which he appears to have served in several of the public offices; he knows Goozeratti, Maratti, Balbhod, and English, with colloquial Persian, and, besides this, his character is unexceptionable. I can say, from what I have experienced, that his conduct is also commendable; and as he says that some situations of the native officers are likely to be vacant under your auspices, I beg leave respectfully to recommend him as a candidate, and to request the favour of your having the goodness to grant him one of them, as he is qualified to transact the duties of any situation that may be given to him, and is tolerably acquainted with the Government Regulations. I have nothing to add with regard to his every* capacity, but it will be proved satisfactory on his being employed under your disposal.

* *Sic orig.*

EXTRACT from a Letter from *Juggonath Sunkersettjee*, Esq., to Mr. *Danvers*, the Magistrate of Bombay; dated 10 January 1846 (not presented).

THE bearer of this, Rugonath Ragoba, whom I knew for several years, has desired me to write you a few lines as to his character, and I cannot refuse his request, and therefore trust you will excuse these few lines. I know him to be a good man, and a person of respectable family. He is a head clerk of Messrs. Brownrigg & Co., and has been under my protection.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

EXTRACT from a Letter from *Juggonath Sunkersettjee*, Esq., to *Rugonath Ragoba*, from Ahmedabad; dated 6 February 1847.

YOU are a very sensible young man, and I always liked and like you.

No. 1811 of 1845.—Judicial Department.

IN reply to your petition, dated the 23d instant, applying for the kotwalship of Surat, I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to inform you that you should apply direct to the judge of that station.

By order, &c.
(signed) *W. Escombe*,
Sec. to Govt.

Bombay Castle, 31 May 1845.
To Rugonath Ragoba, Bombay.

EXTRACT from a Letter from *W. B. Barrington*, Esq., Surgeon, from Bombay, to *Rugonath Ragoba*; dated 4 August 1847.

YOU are of a good respectable family, and by being as attentive as you have hitherto proved yourself, you will want no other support than your own proper conduct.

No. 133 of 1846.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Political Agent in Katteewar, to *W. R. Morris*, Esq., Accountant-general, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to transmit copies of letters Nos. 30, 31, and 33, to Government, and of letter No. 608, February 12, from Mr. Chief Secretary Willoughby, and of my reply, of this day's date, relative to a proposed change in the rates of pay in my English office, and requesting that a well-qualified head accountant might be sent to me.

2. May I request the favour of your procuring for me a well-qualified person to fill the situation, premising that unless a very superior person can be obtained, I should prefer appointing to the office Geerdhur Lall, now my assistant accountant.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*, Pol. Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency,
Rajcote, 20 February 1846.

No. 65 of 1846.—General Department.

To the Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter of the 20th ultimo, No. 133, and enclosures, I have the honour to acquaint you of my having engaged an efficient person, named Rugonathjee Ragoba, as head accountant and book-keeper for your office, on a salary of one hundred and fifty rupees (150 rupees) per mensem, as therein desired. Rugonath will leave this for Rajcote on the 2d proximo.

I have, &c.
(signed) *R. T. Webb*,
Acting Account.-general.

Bombay Castle, Accountant-general's Office,
28 March 1846.

(True copies.)

(signed) J. Nicholson,
Acting 3d Assist. Pol. Agent in Charge, S. S.

EXTRACT from a Note from Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar, to *Rugonath Ragoba*; dated 20 December 1847.

I HAVE every reason to be perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have always discharged the duties of head accountant.

The Bishop of Bombay has the pleasure to return to Rugonath Ragoba the very satisfactory testimonials to his character, and is gratified to find that the favourable opinion which he has for some years entertained of Rugonath's character and abilities is so fully borne out by the opinions of those under whom he has been employed.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

The Bishop trusts that Rugonath will by preserving * integrity and attention to his duties continue to deserve the favourable sentiments now entertained respecting him.

* *Sic orig.*

Rajcote, 10 February 1849.

Extract from a Note from Captain *H. Aston*, First Assistant Political Agent in Charge, S. S., Katteewar, to *Rugonath Ragoba*, dated the 20th March 1849.

I look to you always to correct any irregularity or impropriety in these orders; and I give you credit for very good intentions in the performance of this part of your duty.

Extract from a Note from Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar, to *Rugonath Ragoba*; dated Umrily, the 23d June 1849.

Although I have every reason to be well satisfied with you as an accountant, and in the performance of all the other work you have to do under me, I could not take it upon myself to recommend you for the situation of Mamlutdar.

Extract from a Note from *A. Bettington*, Esq., Collector at Ahmedabad to *F. Collier*, Esq., Surgeon at Rajcote; dated Ahmedabad, the 25th June 1849.

Will you inform Rugonath Ragoba there is no vacancy of mamlutdar of Duskroy; the foujdarship is inferior to his present appointment, and has been or will be given to another.

Extract from a Note from Lieutenant *J. T. Barr*, of the 7th Regiment Native Infantry, and Second Assistant Political Agent in Katteewar, to Captain *H. Barr*, Military Paymaster at Bombay, dated 17th January 1850.

Our head accountant, Ragonathrao, however, is a capital accountant, and a very good man, and generally respected.

Leutenant-colonel Outram presents his compliments to Rugonath Ragoba, head accountant in the Katteewar Political Agency, and has to inform him that the office of native agent at Baroda is already filled.

Rugonath Ragoba's memorandum of services is herewith returned.

Baroda, 28 May.

Sir, Mahableshwer, 21 May 1850.

In reply to your letter of the 14th instant, I am directed by the Right honourable the Governor to inform you that the vacancy for which you applied had been disposed of prior to the receipt of your application.

The accompaniments to your letter are herewith returned.

I have, &c.

Rugonath Ragoba. (signed) *J. W. Henry*, Private Secretary.

No. 1482 of 1850.

From *Richard Spooner*, Collector of Ahmednuggur, to *Rugonath Ragoba*, Head Accountant, Political Agent's Office, Katteewar.

Sir,

In reply to your letter, dated the 17th instant, I beg to inform you that the vacancy for which you have applied for † was disposed of prior to the receipt of your application.

† *Sic orig.*

2. The accompaniments to your letter are herewith returned.

I have, &c.

Ahmednuggur, Collector's Office, 26 June 1850. (signed) *R. Spooner*, Collector.

No. 214 of 1851.

Memorandum.

The copies of the testimonials that accompanied Rugonath Ragoba's (head accountant at Rajcote) petition, dated 21st November last, are herewith returned, as requested in his letter dated the 28th ultimo.

(signed) *A. N. Shaw*,
Revenue Commissioner, N. D.

Revenue Commissioner's Camp, Tanna Districts, Nandgaum, 23 January 1851.

Sir, Dapoore, 7 June 1850.

In reply to your letter of the 29th ultimo, I am directed by the Right honourable the Governor to inform you that appointments of the description you applied for is filled up by the local officers; you should therefore write to the Collector and Revenue Commissioner.

I have, &c.

Rugonath Ragoba, Head Accountant. (signed) *J. W. Henry*, Private Secretary.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

No. 891 of 1851.

To *Rugonath Ragoba*, Head Accountant of the Political Agency, Rajcote.

With reference to your petition, dated the 22d ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that there is no situation vacant which would suit you.

Tannah Collector's Circuit Cutchery, Boyaore, 5 November 1851. (signed) *H. Malet*, Collector.

Extract from a Letter from Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar, to *G. J. Blane*, Esq., Civil Auditor at Bombay; dated 14th June 1851.

I have always heretofore found the head accountant exceedingly attentive to his duty.

To *Rugonath Ragoba*.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 18th instant; you should make your application for the appointment of mamlutdar through Mr. Goldsmid, secretary in the Revenue Department.

Yours, &c.

Parell, 28 October 1851. (signed) *A. Richardson*.

No. 11,213 of 1851.—Territorial Department. Revenue.

To *Rugonath Ragoba*, Head Accountant, Rajcote.

Sir,

I have been directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to inform you, in reply to your letter, dated the 6th instant, with accompaniments, that you can apply, if you please, to the Revenue Commissioners, the local officers, or to the Sudur Adawlut for promotion.

I am, &c.

Bombay Castle, 28 November 1851. (signed) *E. H. Goldsmid*, Secretary to Government.

Government, No. 116.—General, No. 270, of 1852, Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to my letter of the 24th ultimo, No. 113, reporting on the petition of Rugonath Rao Ragoba, I have the honour to forward, for the information of Government, copy of the reply received from Captain Barr to my letter to his address, sending him copy of Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's letter of the 8th ultimo, No. 2,582, for his future guidance.

I have, &c.

Kattiawar Political Agency, Camp, Goondul, 3 July 1852. (signed) *W. Lang*, Political Agent.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

To the Political Agent in Kattiawar.

Sir,

Having this day been favoured with your letter, No. 256, dated 24th of June last, transmitting, for my information and future guidance, copy of Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's reply on the subjects of the charges of bribery lately preferred against the head accountant of this agency, I have, with the deepest concern, become aware that my proceedings in the case have been deemed most unsatisfactory, and that my detention of the witness Munguljee Goa under temporary restraint has been viewed with displeasure. I beg to express my sincere regret at having thus incurred the reproof of Government, and to assure you that the measures adopted by me in the prosecution of this inquiry, however erroneous they have been, were prompted by an earnest desire to arrive at the truth under circumstances which I felt rendered the eliciting of it peculiarly difficult.

I have, &c.

Rajcote, 1 July 1852. (signed) *J. T. Barr*,
Assistant Political Agent.

(True copy.)
(signed) W. Lang, Political Agent.

Minute by the Honourable Mr. *Bell*.

Major Lang's letter contains a report on the petition of Rugoonath Rao Ragooba, as also explanation regarding our letter of the 8th ultimo, No. 2582.

In the third para., Major Lang argues on the probability of the mis-statement of Adee regarding the jewels; now, on this investigation, for it would appear that it was not a regular trial, nevertheless the accountant was recommended to be dismissed on this very inquiry; the Government decided on the facts recorded in the proceedings, and not on probabilities.

After a most attentive perusal of Major Lang's letter, I must confess I can find nothing therein to induce me to alter the opinion expressed in my minute of the 1st of May last.

Had Major Lang placed us in possession of the grounds of his suspicion regarding the accountant's mode of exercising the influence which he is considered to possess, it might have weakened confidence in that officer, but would in no way have altered the merits of the case. In the absence, however, of all data on the subject, the Government could only form its opinion from what could be gleaned from the proceedings submitted.

From the present communication, as Major Lang, in whose discretion I entertain a high opinion, appears so fully convinced of Ragoonath Rao's intriguing propensities, I see not the slightest objection to intimating to him what is contained in the concluding part of the 14th para. of his letter, on continuing him in his present post.

The only other point requiring notice is the restoration of the chain, in deciding on which a deviation from the existing procedure exercised at Rajcote was contemplated. If the legal owner should come forward to demand the chain, the claim will, of course, be investigated by the officers of the agency; and should no claimant appear, it may, I think, be fairly assumed that Rugoonath Rao Ragoba is the legal owner.

(signed) *A. Bell.*

12 July 1852.

Memorandum.

1. With reference to the 15th para. of the accompanying letter from the Political Agent in Kattywar, the Chief Secretary begs to state that he has been informed that Rugoonath Rao Ragoba has a brother residing in Bombay, named "Atmaram Ragoba," * who is stated to be a person of very indifferent character, and who is doubtless the party alluded to in this correspondence, as the "relative"

* Formerly dismissed from the Military Board, and lately from the office of the chief resident engineer of the railway company.

"relative" in Bombay "of Rugoonath Rao;" and probably the medium through which the information alluded to by Major Lang (in para. 15) was communicated to parties at Rajcote. Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

2. The Chief Secretary would remark that the papers were not in the Secret Department, but that, independent of the assistants who drafted and examined the letters, &c., the draft of the Government order was copied by a clerk on the fixed establishment, named Deenanath Darnodhur, and entered in the fair minute-book by a sectioner named Gunput Wassoodajee. The former is a Sonar by caste, the latter a Purvoo, the same caste as Rugoonath Rao Ragoba. With a view to the repression of the system of giving publicity to the orders of Government from the office, the chief secretary wishes to dismiss both of these men. Deenanath, however, being in the receipt of a larger salary than 30 rupees a month, cannot be dismissed without the orders of Government; he solicits, therefore, the instructions of the Honourable Board thereto. The dismissal of Gunput will also be delayed until the pleasure of the Honourable Board regarding Deenanath be known.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Chief Secretary.

23 July 1852.

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor.

I WOULD inform Major Lang that our opinion relative to the mode in which Mr. Barr conducted the inquiry committed to him, as also with regard to the insufficiency of the evidence brought against his head accountant to establish the guilt of that individual, with respect to the offences of which he was accused, remains unaltered; and likewise, that we do not consider that Ragonath Rao Ragoba, in his petition, sets up a different defence from that he offered on the investigation, but that he merely shows what he deems to be the most unfavourable interpretation that the evidence produced could be made to bear; still that it is far from our desire that a subordinate believed to be so prone to intrigue by his official superior, as Ragoba is believed to be by Major Lang, should continue to hold employment in a political office in a province where so many facilities for improper intermeddling exist.

Major Lang's high character and official experience are, I think, a sufficient guarantee that he has not formed his estimate of Rugoonath Rao Ragoba's propensities without just grounds. I would therefore instruct Major Lang to require Rugonath Rao to vacate his appointment as soon as the necessary arrangement for the conduct of the accountant's office can be made, furnishing that individual with such a certificate relative to his qualifications as may assist him in procuring a situation elsewhere.

I take this opportunity of expressing the opinion, that it must be a very exceptional case indeed in which we should constrain a political officer, in high and confidential employ, to depend on the services of any agent whom he may deem untrustworthy. With reference to his 8th para., Major Lang should be instructed that we do not desire any departure from the course of procedure usually followed by him in such matters, nor do we wish him to do that which "will produce the worst possible effect in this (the Kattywar) province;" that he is at liberty to give back the chain to the party he may consider entitled to it, but that we object most strongly to his placing Rugonath Rao in a position in which he will, if guilty of what Major Lang suspects, have but the alternative of criminating himself or of committing perjury.

With reference to the closing (15th) para. of Major Lang's letter, I would request that officer to inform us how much of the substance of our secretary's letter therein alluded to became known from any other source than his own office.

As the private interests of individuals may be seriously compromised by his reply, we beg he will be good enough to distinguish between what it is within the bounds of possibility might have transpired from his office, and what could only have been communicated from Bombay; until we shall receive Major Lang's reply, it will be impossible for us to form a decided opinion as to whether any betrayal of confidence is or is not to be attributed to any individuals serving in the Political Department. At the same time, and with reference to the memorandum

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

of the chief secretary, I would have it understood, that it is not the duty of the Governor in Council to regulate the internal economy or discipline of the office of which the chief secretary is the head.

Responsible for the conduct of his own branch of the secretariate, each secretary should dismiss those he deems unworthy of confidence, and such individuals, if they conceive themselves unjustly treated, can appeal to Government. I am, I confess, heartily tired of having had so often to interfere in matters which I do not conceive to be within the province of governor, because I do not think that a secretary should require the special support and sanction of higher authority to enable him to perform the ordinary duties entailed by his important position.

(signed) *Falkland.*

31 July 1852.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Blane.*

I CONCUR in the Right honourable President's proposals in regard to Rugonathrow Ragoba.

2. Adverting to the Chief Secretary's memorandum, I was myself under the impression that the authority of Government is required by regulation for the dismissal of native officers on receipt of salaries amounting to 30 rupees per mensem. This I find is erroneous; Regulation XVI., section 9, relates only to the establishment of collectors, and by that enactment a report of the circumstances is only declared to be necessary. There is, however, I think, some Government circular on the subject, and in practice it has been usual for Government to intimate their confirmation of such dismissals.

3. Not being matter of regulation, the extension of the rule to the secretariate may, I concur in thinking, be regarded as uncalled for; and Mr. Malet should understand for the future that no reference for the instructions of Government on such occasions is held to be requisite.

(signed) *D. A. Blane.*

3 August 1852.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Bell.*

THERE is a general order, dated the 21st July 1828, directing that all appointments to, and dismissal from office, when the salary exceeds 30 rupees per mensem, are to be reported to Government.

There are also two subsequent circulars on this subject, dated 29th December 1842, and the 21st February 1843. I see no reason why there should be any exception in favour of the Secretariate.

(signed) *A. Bell.*

3 August 1852.

Seen.

(signed) *Falkland.*

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Blane.*

I CONCLUDE that my minute of the 31st July, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. Blane may now be acted on; orders in accordance with it should be issued without delay.

11 August 1852. (signed) *Falkland.*
D. A. Blane.

Seen.

(signed) *A. Bell.*

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

No. 3576 of 1852.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

Political Department.

1. I AM directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letters Nos. 113 and 116, dated the 24th June and the 3d ultimo, relative to the case of Raghoonath Rao Raghoba, head accountant in the Katteewar Agency.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you that the opinion of Government, communicated to you in Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's letter, No. 2582, dated the 8th June last, relative to the mode in which your assistant, Captain Barr, conducted the inquiry in this case, as also with regard to the insufficiency of the evidence brought forward against Raghoonath Rao to establish the guilt of that individual with respect to the affairs of which he was accused, remains unaltered.

3. I am also desired to state that his Lordship in Council does not consider that Raghoonath Rao in his petition to Government sets up a different defence from that he offered on the investigation, but that he merely shows what he deems to be the most unfavourable interpretation that the evidence produced against him could be made to bear ; still it is far from the desire of Government that a subordinate believed to be so prone to intrigue by his official superiors as Raghoonath Rao is believed to be by you, should continue to hold employment in a political office in a province where so many facilities for improper intermeddling exist.

4. The Right honourable the Governor in Council considers your high character and official experience to be a sufficient guarantee that you have not formed your estimate of Raghoonath Rao's propensities without just grounds, and accordingly desires me to request that you will require that individual to vacate his appointment as soon as the necessary arrangement for the conduct of the duties of the accountant's office can be made, furnishing him with such a certificate relative to his qualifications as may assist him in procuring a situation elsewhere.

5. With reference to the 8th para. of your letter, I am to inform you that his Lordship in Council does not desire any departure from the course of procedure usually followed by you in such matters, nor does Government wish you to do that which "will produce the worst possible effect in this (the Katteewar) province," and that you are therefore at liberty to give back the chain to the party you may consider entitled to it ; but that Government objects most strongly to your placing Raghoonath Rao in a position in which he will, if guilty of what you suspect, have but the alternative of criminating himself or of committing perjury.

6. Adverting to the closing para. of your letter, I am instructed to request that you will state, for the information of Government, how much of the substance of Mr. Goldsmid's letter above quoted became known from any other source than your own office. As the private interests of individuals may be seriously compromised by your reply, his Lordship in Council requests that you will be good enough to distinguish between what it is within the bounds of possibility might have transpired from your office, and what could only have been communicated from Bombay.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle, 17 August 1852. (signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

Government, No. 150.—General, No. 357 of 1852.—Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Kattiawar, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, No. 3576, regarding the charges against Rugonath Rao Ragoba, head accountant of this Agency, and containing instructions for finally disposing of the case, I have the honour to inform you that Government may rest fully satisfied that the account I was obliged to give of this individual's proneness to intriguing, in reply to his most gratuitous and improper accusations of his fellow-servants in general, was more than borne out by different circumstances which have from time to time come to my knowledge from so many sources as to place their truth altogether beyond a doubt, and I might have added, that the sweeping general accusations contained in several of the anonymous petitions which have been presented during the last few years against the Government subordinates in this province, are so much akin to the charges made by Rugonath Rao in his late petition to Government against the whole of his fellow-servants in this Agency, as to warrant strong suspicion that he had, as has been more that once stated against him, some hand in getting up the anonymous petitions in question.

2. Still as no proof whatever has been forthcoming of this, and as Government continues of opinion that there are not sufficient grounds for considering that he has been guilty of the still graver accusations preferred against him by Bhutoor Veneeram, I should be sorry to punish him so severely as is now sanctioned, for his intermeddling propensities alone, seriously as I have warned him on several occasions against their indulgence; and it also appears to me that any certificate I could with propriety give him would require some allusion to the cause of his leaving this Agency, which, however generally expressed, might rather interfere with his prospects of getting employment elsewhere. I hope I shall therefore sufficiently meet the wishes of Government by exacting from him a distinct promise to refrain from all interference in the affairs of the province for the future, and from every kind of intriguing with the karbarees, wukeels, or other agents of the different talookas, and by publishing a shera setting forth the serious notice Government was prepared to take of such intermeddling propensities in the subordinate servants employed by it in Kattiawar, and warning not only all such, but also the agents and wukeels of the chiefs and others, against any such intriguing for the future.

3. I have accordingly taken upon myself to do this, subject to the confirmation of the Honourable Board, and on receiving the written promise I required from Rugonath Rao, restored to him his duties as accountant, but without attaching to them the superintendence of Mohsuls, both on account of the improper use which was made of the services of the Mohsul peon, Esoo, on the late occasion, and owing to the inconvenience I have often experienced when out in the districts from not having one of the clerks present with myself entrusted with that duty. I propose, therefore, with the concurrence of Government, to place Girdhur Laul Oolutram in superintending charge of the Mohsulee Department from the 1st proximo, he being exceedingly well qualified for the duty, and fully entitled to the small additional remuneration of 25 rupees per mensem which it will give him.

4. This will take from the head accountant all control over the Mohsul peons, and all responsibility for the different returns required in that department; but as the accounts will still remain in his hands, and I intend to require him and the treasurer, in conjunction, to take the recovery of the large outstanding balances, both of the Government share of Suwar Mohsulee and of the Pala Mohsulee dues, more immediately in hand, I hope hereafter to get Government to sanction an allowance of 25 rupees per mensem to each of them on this account from the 1st proximo, provided they perform the duty as efficiently as I expect, and provided also, in Rugonath's case, that in other respects he acts up to the promise which he has now given me. Some arrangement of this kind is very necessary as an additional check against the accumulation of these arrears of Mohsulee, which I lately found to be due in many cases for several years before I took charge of this Agency; the chiefs almost

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

almost always delaying, if they can, to pay the Government share of Mohsulee, in the hope of ultimate remission, which should never be granted, however, after the amount has been entered for collection in the Mohsulee returns furnished to Government. On this subject, however, I shall report at greater length hereafter.

5. With reference to the concluding paragraph of your letter, I beg to state that the acquittal of Rugonath Rao of the several charges against him was all that I am aware of having been known at Rajcote, prior to the receipt of Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's letter of the 8th June last in this office. I took care to make sure from Captain Barr, who opened the letter first at Rajcote, and enclosed it carefully to me at Joonaghur, that the information I mentioned could not possibly have been obtained from it, before I made the statement contained in the concluding paragraph of my letter of the 24th June last on this subject. I have now made all the further inquiries in my power to endeavour to ascertain when this information was received at Rajcote, and from whom it emanated here, but I can get nothing better than the recollection of one of our eldest and steadiest carcoons, that he heard it first from Rugonath Rao's brother, and afterwards from himself, about three or four days before the Government letter could have reached Rajcote. Neither of them mentioned from whence they had received the information, and the latter asked whether anything had reached the office on the subject. To fix the date more correctly I endeavoured to get a sight of the circumstance in writing, in some of the letters which must have passed at the time between Joonaghur, where I was myself, and Rajcote, but none of these could be produced. Two letters from Ahmedabad, however, have been shown to me, the one dated 2d June, mentioning as a report that Rugonath Rao was to be reinstated, and asking whether it was true; and the other, dated 10th June, stating that he had been so, as had also Motee Govind (the dufturdar of Kaira). Rugonath Rao himself denies having heard anything of his acquittal till he saw it mentioned in a Bombay newspaper, soon after which it was confirmed by a note from Captain Barr, under date the 1st July. The Government letter on the subject, I beg to add, reached me at Joonaghur on the 15th of June.

I have, &c.

Kattiawar Political Agency,
Rajcote, 28 August 1852.

(signed) *W. Lang*,
Political Agent.

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Blane* and the Honourable Mr. *Bell*.

MAJOR LANG to be informed that we shall not interfere with what he has done, although he had our authority to dismiss Rugonath Rao.

We intended that Rugonath's high qualifications as an accountant should be stated in the certificate, but of course expected that the reasons for his dismissal should be inserted in it.

We may approve of the change Major Lang has made regarding Mohussils; Major Lang may be told that when we receive the proposal adverted to in his fourth paragraph, it shall be duly considered, but that we certainly do not deem the present to be a fitting time for increasing the emoluments of Rugonath Rao.

The vagueness of the information as to the mode in which, or the channel through which, the rumour of the acquittal of Rugonath became spread, does not appear to me by any means to establish the fact that a breach of confidence was committed in the office of the Chief Secretary. I have already stated, however, that the discipline of his office rests entirely with Mr. Malet.

(signed) *Falkland.*
D. A. Blane.
A. Bell.

18 September 1852.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

No. 4205 of 1852.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to Major *W. Lang*, Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 150, dated the 28th ultimo, and to inform you that you had received authority from Government to dismiss Rughoonath Rao Ragoba from his present appointment in your office, but that the Right honourable the Governor in Council will not interfere with your proceedings now reported.

2. Referring to the latter part of the 4th paragraph of my letter to your address, No. 3576, dated the 17th ultimo, I am to inform you that had you acted on the above authority, his Lordship in Council intended that while Rughoonath's high qualifications as an accountant should be stated in the certificate to be given him on his removal from your office, the reasons for his dismissal should at the same time be stated.

3. The Right honourable the Governor in Council approves the change you have made regarding Mohsuls, reported in the 3d paragraph of your letter.

4. When the proposal adverted to in the 4th paragragh of your letter is received by Government, it will be considered; but I am to remark, that his Lordship in Council does not deem the present a fitting period for any increase being made to the emoluments of Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 28 September 1852.

Government, No. 153.—General, No. 365 of 1852.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *Arthur Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

Political Department.

WITH reference to my letter of the 28th ultimo, reporting the restoration to his duties of the head accountant of this office, I have the honour to inform you that the pay of that individual from the 10th March last, when he was suspended from his duties, has remained in deposit, amounting to *Rs.* 846. 12. 5, together with his allowance as superintendent of Mohsuls, aggregating *Rs.* 141. 2. more, and making in all *Rs.* 987. 14. 5. The duty in the meantime has been performed by the assistant accountant, and a relation of one of my other writers, who has for some time been doing any extra work there may be in the office, in the hope of succeeding eventually to some vacancy.

2. Rugonath Rao having been acquitted by Government of the whole of the charges against him, I conclude that it will be desired, if possible, that he should receive the full amount of arrears shown above to have accumulated during the period of his suspension, and if Government will sanction, as a special case, an allowance of 50 rupees per month in addition to his own pay to the assistant accountant, and of 20 rupees a month to the other writer, it would enable me to pay the head accountant the whole of his arrears without any injustice to either of them. I beg, at the same time, to forward a memorandum of the amount I was obliged last year to cut from the pay of the accountant and another of my writers on account of their having overstayed their leave, and if there be any objection to sanction the special allowance now solicited, and Government would allow me to draw the amount shown in this memorandum to have been credited to Government last year from the pay of this part of my establishment, it would enable me fully to remunerate the parties who acted in the account department on the present occasion, and to make

make good to the head accountant the full amount of his arrears, without any extra charge to Government beyond the amount of the refund of the salaries, and portions thereof credited last year. Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

I have, &c.

Kattiawar Political Agency, Rajcote, 1 September 1852. (signed) *W. Lang*, Political Agent.

MEMORANDUM of the Amount cut from the Pay of the Head Accountant, and another Writer of this Agency, for their having overstayed their Leave.

	Co.'s Rs.	a.	p.	Co.'s Rs.	a.	p.
Rugonath Ragoba:						
From 13th March to 12th April, half-pay, credited in the cash account for May 1851	75	–	–			
From 13th to 30th April 1851, full pay - - ditto	90	–	–			
For the month of May 1851, deduction made from the abstract for a full month	150	–	–			
From 1st to 13th June 1851 - - ditto	65	–	–			
				380	–	–
From 13th March to 12th April 1851, half-pay as Mohsullee superintendent	10	–	–			
From 13th to 30th April 1851, full pay - ditto	12	10	8			
				22	10	8
For the month of May 1851, full pay as Mohsullee superintendent	20	–	–			
From 1st to 3d June 1851, at 20 rupees per month	2	–	–			
From 4th to 13th June 1851, at 25 rupees per month	8	5	4			
				30	5	4
	Rs.			433	–	–
Mr. S. D. Mendoza:						
From 1st April to 8th May 1851, deduction made from the Abstract				28	4	10
TOTAL	*Co.'s Rs.*			461	4	10

Kattiawar Political Agency, Rajcote, 1 September 1852. (signed) *W. Lang*, Political Agent.

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Blane*.

THE Political Agent should be referred to the Government Notification, dated the 22d December 1843, prescribing the rule to be adopted with reference to the salaries of the native servants of Government when under suspension pending an investigation into their official conduct. The first of these rules is as follows: "When a native servant is suspended, his salary shall cease from the date of suspension, and if restored to the situation which he held, he shall receive that portion of his salary which may remain after the payment of the expense of providing for the performance of the duties of his office."

2. The Political Agent should be directed to follow this rule in the present case.

(signed) *Falkland.*
D. A. Blane.

2 October 1852.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Bell.*

RUGOONATH RAGOBA having been acquitted of the charges preferred against him, is, in my opinion, as a special case, under clause 3 of the printed Notification, dated 22d December 1843, entitled to his full pay for the time he remained under suspension.

6 October 1852. (signed) *A. Bell.*

Seen.

(signed) *Falkland.*

13 October 1852. *D. A. Blane.*

No. 4547 of 1852.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet,* Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Major *W. Lang,* Political Agent in Katteewar.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, with enclosure, dated the 1st ultimo, No. 153, and to refer you to the Government Notification, dated the 22d December 1843, prescribing the rules to be adopted with reference to the salaries of the native servants of Government when under suspension pending an investigation into their official conduct; the first rule being as follows: "When a native servant is suspended, his salary shall cease from the date of suspension, and if restored to the situation which he held, he shall receive that portion of his salary which may remain after the payment of the expense of providing for the performance of the duties of his office."

2. His Lordship in Council directs that you will follow the above rule in the case of your head accountant, Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle, 20 October 1852. (signed) *A. Malet,*
Chief Secretary.

NOTIFICATION.

General Department.

THE Honourable the Governor in Council is pleased to establish the following rules in regard to the salaries of native officers, of whatever department, while under suspension, pending investigation into their official conduct.

1st. When a native servant is suspended, his salary shall cease from the date of suspension, and if restored to the situation which he held, he shall receive that portion of his salary which may remain after the payment of the expense of providing for the performance of the duties of his office.

2d. When a native servant is suspended, and, though allowed to return to the service of Government, is not restored to his previous situation, he shall be entitled to no salary for the time he was under suspension.

3d. When a native servant having been suspended, is restored to his situation, and his innocence of the charge against him shall be fully and entirely established, so as to admit of no doubt, the case must be referred to Government, in order that, if Government see fit, his full salary, or a larger portion of it than would be left to him under Rule 1, may be admitted to him as a special case.

4th. Servants

4th. Servants acting for servants under suspension shall receive acting allowances, as in the case of those acting for servants on leave.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

5th. In laying down these rules, Government reserves to itself the right of deciding as it may deem fit on any particular case.

By order of the Honourable the Governor in Council.

(signed) *W. Escombe*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 22 December 1843.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, October 1852.

Government, No. 162 of 1852.—General, No. 393.—Political Department.

From the Political Agent in Katteewar to *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay. No. 8043.

Sir,

1. With reference to my letters of the 20th September and 30th October last, regarding two petitions sent to Government in the name of Bhutoor Veneeram, and to your replies of the 4th and 20th November following, I have the honour to inform you that a Deccanee carcoon of the name of Appa Mookund has lately come forward on promise of pardon for the part he himself took in writing these petitions, with an offer to prove the parties concerned in getting them up, and has produced a scrap of paper containing several lines in the handwriting of one of the wukeels of this agency, named Wora Khetsee Ghela, which he states to be part of the original draft of the first of these petitions, and which corresponds *verbatim* with part of the 12th paragraph of it. The wukeel denies it to be in his handwriting, and points out one or two letters in it which are never used by Guzerattee writers, but very often by Mahrattas, as a proof that it is a forgery by some Deccanees to resemble his handwriting. I have adopted every means in my power correctly to test the writing, and consider it proved beyond a doubt that it is that of the wukeel, and that the Deccanee letters and forms of expression which will be found to abound in the petition, have been purposely introduced into it as a blind. The informer further states that he wrote the petition in the name of Luckmeechund Laulchund, which was forwarded for report with Mr. Secretary Goldsmid's letter of the 18th May 1850, and that the same parties were concerned in getting up all three, but there is no other proof of this than the connexion which exists between them in the reference made in the one to the other; and there is no doubt that the informer is concealing the names of some of the parties who were concerned with them, so that his evidence is only to be depended upon when it is supported by other corroborating circumstances.

2. The petition, in the framing of which I consider that Kheta Wora can be proved to have had a hand, contains, besides other calumnies, an insinuation of foul means having been resorted to for the purpose of killing the late young Nuwab of Joonaghur, and an accusation of the plunder of the Joonaghur Treasury when he died. These charges are abominably malicious, for, to the best of my belief, there was not even a rumour of either in this province at the time of the Nuwab's death, and the Joonaghur karbaree deserved, on the contrary, the greatest credit for the very efficient and successful measures he adopted for the protection of the Treasury on that occasion. Government has moreover been troubled so frequently of late years with anonymous petitions of this description, that it will probably be considered advisable to try the present case before the Political Agent's Court of Criminal Justice for Kattywar, and I have therefore placed the wukeel in confinement in the Treasury Guard, pending the termination of the preliminary investigation which my assistant, Mr. Nicholson, is making on the subject, when he shall be released on the necessary security, to be produced for trial if required. If, however, it be decided on disposing of the case without any more formal trial, the result of

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

the present investigation shall be submitted after I have been favoured with your reply, and I can then acquaint you with my opinion of the measures which should be taken to put some check on such nefarious practices.

3. I regret to inform you that, on being questioned, amongst a number of other persons, about the handwriting on the scrap of paper produced by the informer, two of the carcoons on my establishment denied all knowledge of it. One of these, Mehta Naka Wujeram, has long been employed as Captain Barr's sheristedar, and has frequently, that officer informs me, pointed out the wukeel Kheta Wora's handwriting to him in different letters and petitions about which he has been questioned. There can be no doubt, therefore, but that he knows it well; but the accused is an intimate friend of his, which (if no worse reason existed) appears to have made him wilfully conceal the information he could have given regarding it. I consider this so exceedingly untrustworthy in a man in the responsible situation he occupies, and likely, unless severely noticed, to have such a pernicious effect as an example to others, that I am humbly of opinion that dismissal would not be too severe a punishment for the offence he has committed, but I hope six months' suspension from his duty will be a sufficient warning in this case; and I beg, therefore, to recommend that this punishment be awarded to Naka Wujeram on the conviction of the wukeel of having written the scrap in question, and in the meantime he shall be employed in the kucherry in a less responsible situation than the one he now occupies. The other carcoon, Moolsunker Hurnarain, has not had equal opportunities of knowing the handwriting of the different wukeels employed under this agency, but I consider it next to impossible that he either could have been ignorant of it, and if he was, the stupidity thus displayed would deserve the fine of a month's pay, which is all I would propose to visit him with, as a warning to all others of his class of the obligation they are under to speak the honest truth when questioned by their official superiors on any such points.

4. The informer in this case was brought to me by Bhugwan Laul Mudunjee, formerly native agent in this province, who was dismissed from the service of Government in December 1847, and declared incapable of further employment under it, for having received two presents from the Rajcote Durbar, one of them subsequent to the promulgation of an order by Government prohibiting the interchange of presents by Government servants altogether. Notice was subsequently taken in your letter of the 30th November 1848 of Bhugwan Laul's asserted employment by his Highness the Nuwab of Joonaghur, to which I replied in my letter of the 15th January following, No. 9, and the interdict to his employment by the Nuwab was temporarily withdrawn in consequence of your subsequent communication of the 25th of the same month, No. 373. Nothing further having since been proved against the late native agent, I hope I may be permitted to inform him, in consideration of the good service he has rendered on the present occasion, that Government will not object to his employment by any of the chiefs in this province who may at any time be willing to give him service. Instead of entering into intrigues himself, which I have never heard even insinuated against him, it shows much right feeling in Bhugwan Laul coming forward to assist in exposing such malpractices, and from all I have since heard, I believe the account given in my letter of the 15th January 1849, of the estimation in which Bhugwan Laul is held by his fellow-countrymen generally, and of his endeavours to retrieve the fault he committed whilst in our service, to be perfectly correct.

5. As the original petitions Kheta Wora is accused of having had a hand in framing will be required in whatever further investigation Government may direct to be held on the subject, I shall feel obliged by your sending them to me. They were returned to Government, I beg to inform you, with Captain Aston's and my letters, dated respectively the 10th June 1850 and the 10th April last.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Wm. Lang*,
Political Agent.

Katteewar Political Agency, Rajcote,
18 September 1852.

Charges against Rughoonath Rao Ragoba.

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Blane* and the Honourable Mr. *Bell*.

No. 8044.

THE charge of writing an anonymous petition does not appear to me to be one to be tried before the Kattywar Criminal Court; but if Major Lang, to whom the original petitions should be sent, be satisfied that the wakeel was the author, he should be prohibited from transacting business in any way with the Government establishments.

With respect to Bhugwanlall, the prohibition against employment under Joonaghur was temporarily withdrawn in the Government letter No. 373, date 25th July 1849; and as he continues to endeavour to merit forgiveness, that indulgence already conceded may be continued; but beyond this the service now reported does not seem to call for any greater recognition.

(signed) *Falkland.*
D. A. Blane.
2 October 1852. *A. Bell.*

No. 4425 of 1852.

No. 8045.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Major *William Lang*, Political Agent in Kattewar.

Sir,

1. I AM directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 162, dated the 18th ultimo, relative to two petitions sent to Government in the name of Bhutoor Veneeram, and one in that of Luckmeechund Lalchund.

2. In reply, I am desired to state, that the charge of writing an anonymous petition does not appear to his Lordship in Council to be one to be tried before the Katteewar Court of Criminal Justice; but that should you be satisfied, for which purpose the original petitions applied for by you are herewith enclosed, that the wakeel, Wora Khetsee Ghela, was its author, he should be prohibited from transacting business in any way with the Government establishments.

3. With respect to Bhugwanlal, I am instructed to observe that the prohibition against his employment under Joonaghur was temporarily withdrawn in my letter No. 373, dated the 25th July 1849, and that as he continues to endeavour to merit forgiveness, his Lordship in Council authorises the indulgence already conceded being continued; but that beyond this, the service on his part now brought to notice does not seem to call for any greater recognition.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Bombay Castle, 11 October 1852. Chief Secretary.

(True extract.)
(signed) A. Malet, Chief Secretary.

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

EXTRACT Paras. 22 to 26 of the Judicial Despatch from the Bombay Government to the Honourable the Court of Directors; dated 15th November 1851, No. 63.

Malversation:
Case of Heeralal Goverdhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.
Judicial Cons. 1850:
6th March, No. 1995 D./I.
13th April, No. 3122/23.
Judicial Cons. 1851:
12th March, No. 1355/61.
7th May, No. 3556/58.
12th March, No. 1545/53.

22. THE proceedings quoted in the margin relate to the case of Heeralal Goverdhun, late foujdar of Ahmedabad. This individual was committed to the Session Court on three separate charges of bribery; of these cases, two resulted in the conviction of the prisoner, and in the third case he was acquitted; the convictions in the first two cases also were subsequently reversed; but, on a careful consideration of the circumstances which transpired on the trial, and of other matters which were afterwards brought to our notice, we were of opinion that Heeralal could not with propriety be retained in the public service, and he was accordingly removed from his appointment.

23. In the preliminary investigation of this case the magistrate considered it expedient to remove the prisoner to a distant part of the zillah, and to take evidence in the absence of the accused. In defence of the course pursued by him, Mr. Bettington has observed that the influence and power of the foujdar were such, that the proofs of his guilt would have been certainly destroyed if he had been allowed to remain at Ahmedabad. We were not prepared to admit that so unusual a procedure was requisite for eliciting the truth; but whether this measure be justifiable or otherwise, we conceive that the magistrate was bound, on Heeralal's arrest, to go through the case magisterially in the prisoner's presence, in conformity with the regulations, and we regret that this course was not adopted.

24. An intimation to the above effect has been made to Mr. Bettington; we have also informed that gentleman, for his future guidance, that preliminary inquiries in the absence of the accused party, when necessary, should be conducted after the mode followed by an attorney conducting a prosecution in England, and not in the regular form of a deposition on oath, which should never be administered except in the prisoner's presence.

25. Mr. Bettington has been further informed, that though we do not in all respects approve of his proceedings as above reported, we are satisfied that he has acted with becoming zeal in his endeavours to put an end to a system of extortion, of the existence of which he had satisfied himself.

26. Our colleague, the Honourable Mr. Blane, was of a different opinion; Mr. Bettington, he thought, had displayed a great want of discretion, and that his proceedings were but little commendable in any view.

EXTRACT Judicial Letter to Bombay, dated 4 August (No. 4) 1852.

Letter, dated 15 November (No. 63) 1851.
(22 & 26.) Case of Heeralal Govindhur, late Foujdar of Ahmedabad, tried for extortion. Irregular proceedings of Mr. Bettington in the preliminar investigation.

37. WE concur in the observations which you caused to be communicated to Mr. Bettington on his irregular proceedings in this case; we join with you, however, in giving him credit for having been actuated by an earnest desire to put down a system of corruption which he believed to have been practised by the foujdar, and we think that you decided properly that, although the conviction of the prisoner was reversed by the Sudder Foujdarry Adawlut, he should not be allowed to resume his office.

Extract from the Proceedings of Government in the Judicial Department.

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

No. 13.

From the Magistrate of Ahmedabad.

Jud. Cons. 1850. 6 March. No. 1995 D.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to forward copy of a letter which I have this day addressed, No. 12 of 1850, to the registrar of the Sudder Adawlut, for the reasons therein explained, para. 40.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Alb. Bettington*,
Magistrate.

Camp, Morasa, 24 January 1850.

No. 12 of 1850.—Judicial Department.

From *Alb. Bettington*, Esq., Magistrate of Ahmedabad, to *W. H. Harrison*, Esq., Acting Registrar to the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut, Bombay. No. 1995 E.

Sir,

CERTAIN matters of grave moment and of the first importance to the interest of Government and the people as connected with the administration of the criminal law in this country have forced themselves on my notice, and it has been an occasion of doubt and perplexity to me how and in what manner to convey the opinions I consider it my duty to express, with the view of having them brought under consideration speedily and effectually, and in the manner least open to objection. I request you will do me the favour to submit the following remarks for the consideration of the judges.

2. It appears to me that the officer placed in the responsible charge of a zillah has entrusted to him with this responsibility certain discretionary powers which he must exercise as occasion requires, and that it is no part of his duty to evade that responsibility and continually trouble the Government with references for his guidance, except when specially so directed, or in some matter of moment absolutely beyond his power to dispose of; such a case I have now the honour to submit.

3. On my arrival at Ahmedabad last June, I found certain abuses prevailing of a very gross and serious character, but I consider they could be punished and remedied without troubling the Government with anything more than the result; but the case has become complicated in a manner which makes it absolutely necessary to report the subject in detail for the consideration of the judges, with the view of its being submitted to Government; and this I now do under the firm conviction that it needs the most serious consideration, and involves essential principles of the greatest consequence to the interest of Government.

4. On my arrival, I received from different quarters, not from natives alone, but from gentlemen of the highest character, information which led me to entertain great doubts as to the conduct of the parties named in the margin, who were charged with numerous acts of corruption and abuse of authority, and each day strengthened this impression, till I became satisfied the information was substantially correct, and that a system of the grossest corruption prevailed; it was also apparent that from the influence and talent of the parties, it would be a matter of extreme difficulty to break asunder this chain of villany.

Heeralal Goverdhun, late Foujdar of Ahmedabad; Jumnadass; Samuldass; late Revenue Sheristedar; Chugunlal Jadowray, late Magisterial Sheristadar; Girdhur Panachund, late Daroga of Stamps.

5. It was absolutely necessary to give the people a convincing proof that I was really in earnest, had both the power to give them redress and the will to use it; and further, it was absolutely necessary to take steps to check, though I could not prevent altogether the attempts it was anticipated would be made by collusion and intimidation to suppress evidence.

6. I therefore sent away these people from Ahmedabad to different points of the zillah, and I can state with the most thorough conviction and certainty, that

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

that if I had not done so, not one of them would have been brought to justice. I do not give this as my own unsupported opinion, but I can assure the Government there is no European or native at Ahmedabad, conversant with the affair, who does not know that from the influence and power of these people, such must infallibly have been the result.

7. This measure has been much commented on, but I wish to submit not only that it was necessary and expedient, but that there is nothing in law or justice opposed to it. The magistrate in the exercise of the power entrusted to him, and the authority over each and every part of the establishment, is bound to use both ordinary and extraordinary means for the detection and punishment of such grave offenders, when he has sound substantial grounds to believe they have corrupted the administration of the province, as in the present instance, to the very core. He is bound to throw the weight of his authority on the side most needing it. Here "the pressure from without" was against public justice; the influence of the corrupt party was great, that of the oppressed was nil.

8. Tyranny and oppression in every shape I cordially detest, whether under the cloak of the law or without it. The tyranny of a mob is said to be more intolerable than the despotism of the most absolute monarch; so most certainly is the oppression of corruption in a province, a tyranny of the most grievous character, and its correction and prevention would justify measures of great severity; but the sending away from the scene of their iniquities four dishonest servants, to prevent their destroying the proofs of their guilt, I would submit, was a measure essential and necessary, though it has been represented both in the public papers and elsewhere, both in anticipation of the trials and since, as one of unnecessary severity. The judges also expressed a similar opinion, but I trust that now (for it is not till now that I have requested to be heard in court) the explanations offered will show, if the remedy was unusual, the disease was deadly.

9. The court have also passed a censure, because evidence was taken in the absence of the accused, and have ruled, that the doing so "is fatal to conviction." This is one of the points which I wish specially to draw under observation. I do most earnestly protest against this rule under the firm conviction that if maintained, it will prove fatal to the administration of justice in this country. Preliminary investigations are the vital principle of every judicial inquiry; they are recognised by law and practice in every country, and without them, by collusion, by corruption, by the intimidation of witnesses, no influential offender would ever be brought to justice; it would never be ruled in England, because a magistrate at Bow-street had taken evidence on oath, that such evidence in the subsequent trial at the Criminal Courts, or the Sessions, would not be received, or received with distrust.

10. I beg to be excused observing, that all that justice requires, and all that the law, as far as I have experience has hitherto required in this country, is, that the prisoner should be confronted with his accusers; hear each and every part of the evidence against him on his trial; have, further, every opportunity and advantage to cross-examine every witness at his trial, and every facility given to make his defence.

11. But supposing all these essentials fairly observed, can it be considered that such trial is not a fair trial because there have been preliminary investigations; and that witnesses have been examined, and explained an oath, to prevent the loss of their evidence by corrupt influence employed *ad interim*?

Sec. 39 of Reg. XIII. of 1827, both in spirit and wording, appears to refer as clearly to preliminary investigations as Sec. 38 (Clause 2 in particular) refers to the actual trial.

12. On the subject of preliminary investigations, Sir Lawrence Peel observes, p. 2, Report, L. C., 1848, "that it is a fallacy to treat the preliminary proceedings of requisition as the beginning of the judicial investigation, meaning thereby the trial." Again, "the preliminary proceedings are, in fact, distinct proceedings in furtherance of the prosecution." I beg to submit, therefore, that any evidence so taken in a preliminary inquiry, if produced afterwards in court, together with the party giving it, confronting the prisoner, the judicial inquiry must then be considered to commence, and the evidence being read over and sworn to, and the prisoner or his vakeel allowed full liberty to cross-examine the witness thereon, the evidence is good evidence. The writing down the words over again

by

by the magistrate who has taken the deposition appears to be useless, a form involving great delay, and surely surperfluous, for it is to be remembered that the whole evidence is always again taken *de novo* by the Session Court.

13. In the interest of public justice such evidence cannot be rejected, and it appears quite evident, that to elicit the truth in working out the several clues and peculiar features of a case in a preliminary investigation, is as much to the advantage of the innocent as it is to the disadvantage of the guilty. Some remark has been made about evidence "cut and dried;" but is not evidence in an English court "cut and dried?" that is to say, the bearing and character of primary evidence is known and determined beforehand; public justice is protected by the fact, that it is not possible to "cut and dry" a cross-examination; and the more the essential points of a case, obtained in a preliminary investigation, are subsequently tossed about on the trial, the better, only they are not to be rejected, except on their inherent merits, or rather demerits.

14. It is found at the present day, even in England, where the feeling is with the law, and men willingly come forward to aid the capture and conviction of a criminal in a manner that has no parallel (at all events neither in this country nor in Ireland); it is found that legal refinements are productive of much hindrance, and are sometimes positively destructive to substantial justice; and it is believed that some of the greatest lawyers of the day have expressed very strong opinions on the subject; in effect, that legal refinements produce worse evils than those they are intended to cure or prevent; and others, not without strong grounds, have declared that trial by jury, however excellent in theory, in present every-day practice is a mischievous fallacy.

15. By legal refinements and subtle distinctions, by peculiar modes of recording evidence, and over-anxiety for great precision in detail, and sufficient weight, perhaps, not given to the opinion and decision of the judge, who has tried the case with the advantage of local knowledge and oral examination of the witnesses, almost any imaginable decision may be reversed in appeal.

16. I beg to be allowed to observe, that according to the present system appeals are brought before the Sudder Adawlut under very serious disadvantages, with advocates retained to point out (and in the interest of their client as in every court), to enlarge and insist upon every defect in the chain of evidence, real or imaginary; while, on the other hand, there is no pleader on the part of Government or the lower court to defend the decision, to reduce the said objection and supposed defects to their real dimensions, and to draw the attention of the judges to and urge the vital importance of critical points on which the decision of the lower court has been based, and to show, further, why that decision ought to be supported.

17. An attempt has been made to throw discredit on my proceedings in regard to the criminals before mentioned, alleging that there was a conspiracy against the accused. But people, however malignant, cannot conspire to the intent that a man who, in the year 1837, ran away from the country, unable to pay his debts, and was subsequently a police spy in Bombay, and concerned, to say the least, in a very questionable manner with the affair of the Bunder gang, and that of Dhackjee Dadajee, and who subsequently, in 1845, was appointed foujdar of Ahmedabad on a salary of (93½ rupees) ninety-three and half rupees a month, and who has since lived in a manner of great extravagance, notorious to the whole city; this man, formerly bankrupt, has now one house estimated worth not less than (7,000 rupees) seven thousand rupees, and has since built himself a palace (haveli), the like of which is not possessed by any but affluent bankers, and who is also possessed of money and jewels to a considerable amount. These are not ends which adversaries conspire to effect, nor to be accounted for by a conspiracy; the facts are undenied and undeniable. Furthermore, his name appears in the books of (37) thirty-seven different merchants and bankers connected with the receipt of money which is traced to corrupt transactions.

18. Again, the late revenue sheristadar, Jumnadass Samuldass, is notoriously a man of great wealth, part of which he inherited from his father, Samuldass, who was (5) five years in the gaol of this place, convicted of gross frauds in his employ at the mint. The salary of Jumnadass, as revenue sheristadar, was (51½ rupees) fifty-one and half rupees a month, and he also has recently built a

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

"haveli" palace of great size, and at a great expense, estimated worth more than (25,000 rupees) twenty-five thousand rupees; his name appears in the books of (5) five persons as connected with corrupt transactions.

19. The late magisterial sheristadar, Chugunlal, is also reputed to have acquired considerable wealth; his name appears in (6) six books; the other parties concerned were of less importance.

N. B.—It is apparent there must be some defect in the system, if such criminals as these can escape from punishment.

20. Unless the facts above detailed, which are notorious to the whole city, native and European, can be denied, it is impossible to convert either of these parties into an innocent and injured man, the victim of a conspiracy.

21. It may be fairly said, "it is not sufficient to pronounce *ex cathedrâ* that a certain person has committed an offence, but you must prove it." On the other hand, I submit that it is possible to raise the standard of what is supposed to constitute full judicial proof, so that it may be all but impossible to establish a charge and obtain a conviction; nor is it now, and in this country alone, that this defect is observable, as I have already attempted to show.

22. As regards Jumnadas Samuldass, the translation of a statement which he made before me on the (6th) sixth day of his trial is attached in the Appendix (A).

23. The late foujdar, Heeralal Govurdhun, was committed by me for trial before the Session Judge, was convicted, and sentenced to (5) five years' imprisonment.

24. I will here merely observe, that this sentence has since been reversed by the Court, and the preliminary investigations held by me in regard to (12) twelve other charges of bribery and corruption against the said Heeralal Govurdhun, and for which he has still to answer, have been called for, and sent by order of the Court.

* *See* below.

25. The several charges against the foujdar, Heeralal, as per margin,* were of the gravest character, involving habitual and notorious oppression and corruption; but it should be observed, that in an inquiry like this, with which I have been engaged, it is very certain that a great number of corrupt transactions never came to light in every case in which the party giving a bribe has been satisfied with the result; he has an interest in the concealment of the transaction, and lends his aid and influence to prevent its discovery; so that only the exceptional cases are ever brought to light. Such was the dread the late foujdar inspired from having continued his course of iniquities with impunity for more than three years, that persons even of influence who had suffered from or in some way had become cognisant of his misdeeds, were afraid to appear against him.

26. I cannot better show this than by what occurred in the course of the inquiry. It was conveyed to me circuitously, that if a certain room on a certain story of a certain house were searched, a box would be found containing books of accounts; one of which, with a particular mark, would be found to contain entries of transactions in one of the bribery cases then under inquiry; the party giving the information only stipulating that every appearance of force and compulsion should be used.† This condition was observed, and the result, that no less than 44 such *quasi* seizures were made; among the rest, the books of some men of wealth and influence.

27. There are certain points deserving of notice in this matter. First, the information was only to be obtained from the owner or some one in his confidence.

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* Calendar, No. 149 of 1849: Charged with receiving a bribe of (1,700) seventeen hundred rupees from Muneedhurgopal (convicted). Calendar, No. 150 of 1849: Charged with receiving a bribe of (80) eighty rupees from Petambur Nurbheram, in the case of the murder of the prostitute (kasbun), (convicted). Calendar, No. 151 of 1849: Charged with receiving a bribe of (50) fifty rupees from Lulloo Rajaram, in the case of the murder aforesaid (acquitted).

† I have given one instance precisely as it occurred. There were a number of others, varying only in non-essentials, the information was conveyed indirectly. The conditions already explained were understood and observed, and the result, as noted in the text, was generally successful.

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

fidence. Secondly, the mode of giving the information and the conditions with which it was coupled evinced much dread of the party against whom it was to be used. Thirdly, in no one instance was any complaint made of these seizures; and most assuredly there would have been under any other condition of things. And lastly, as regards the validity of these documents, it should be noticed, that they belonged to a number of people of different castes and degrees of wealth and importance, and were all subsequently submitted to a jury composed of the head merchants and bankers of Ahmedabad. Translation of their verdict in detail thereon is annexed in the Appendix (C).

28. In attempting to give certain features of the case unbroken, I have set aside the order in which they took place. The points I wish specially to submit are:

1st. That the Government, through the Court, will be pleased to call for the record of my proceedings pronounced illegal by the Suddur Judges, 24th September 1849, and also those held before the Session Judge in the cases as per margin.* This I beg to say is absolutely necessary to my justification, and to the right understanding the importance of this question.

* *See* below.

2d. That the Government will be pleased to recognize the necessity and validity of preliminary investigations, and that evidence in a preliminary investigation taken on oath is to be considered good and sound, and its substance to be admitted on any subsequent trial before judge or magistrate, the accused having full opportunity to examine the same, and to cross-examine the witness.

3d. That the Government will be pleased on all future occasions in which cases are tried in appeal to direct that counsel, or a law officer of the Government, do attend to defend the decisions, and to combat the objections of the appeal, and to point out the ground on which the judge's or magistrate's conviction is to be supported.

4th. That it be ruled in every case in future, in which a decision is reversed by the Suddur Adawlut, that the Court will favour the judge or magistrate with the grounds of the reversal *in extenso.*

5th. That the Government will be pleased to call upon all the judges and magistrates to report what they consider is the effect in their own opinion, and the opinion of the people in their respective zillahs, of the present system in regard particularly to the facility of appeal in criminal cases and the several points now noticed in this paragraph.

29. I have purposely refrained remarking further as to the detail of evidence in the cases on which the foujdar was tried; the detail will be found in my proceedings and those of the Session Judge, and copy of the Sudder Judge's reasons of reversal are on the Court's record, and were also published in the "Courier" newspaper at the time at full length.

30. I feel most strongly the importance of this matter, but I want words and power of argument to do justice to it, and I wish the task had fallen to abler hands; it has been delayed also by my absence and by bad health, which made it impossible for me to attend to any business.

31. I am too anxious that the question should be heard and decided on its merits, to complicate it by the introduction of any matter or any expression that might be deemed intemperate or contumacious, and I trust there is nothing that can bear that construction.

32. I conceive that it should be viewed, not as a matter of personal feeling or as affecting individuals, but as a question of grave importance, to be viewed deliberately and without prejudice, to determine whether certain alleged defects in the working of the judicial system do or do not exist, and whether they are of such a nature as to need present attention and remedy.

33. I have

* Calendar, No. 149 of 1849: Charged with receiving a bribe of (1,700) one thousand and seven hundred rupees from Muneeshur Gopal (convicted). Calendar, No. 150 of 1849: Charged with receiving a bribe of (80) eighty rupees from Petamber Nurbheram, in the case of the murder of the keesbun (prostitute), (convicted). Calendar, No. 151 of 1849: Charged with receiving a bribe of (50) fifty rupees from Geeloo Rajaram, in the case of the murder aforesaid (acquitted).

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

33. I have been much perplexed to convey the positive conviction and certainty I feel as to the substantial truth of the facts put forward, but the soundness or otherwise of my views might be tested by comparing them (for men sometimes entertain strange crotchets) with those of others of longer residence in this province. I therefore beg to suggest that the Government be pleased to call upon the gentlemen named in the margin to report, each within his own personal knowledge and observation,—

Mr. Spens, the late Judge; Mr. Morgan, First Assistant Magistrate; Captain Fulljames, Magistrate; Captain Agar, Assistant Magistrate; Mr. Forbes, Assistant Judge; Mr. Davies, Assistant Magistrate.

1st. Generally, what is the effect of the working of the criminal law under the present system of appeals; whether public justice is or is not affected by it, and whether there is or is not a most urgent necessity for an alteration in the system.

2d. Particularly, whether, with regard to Heeralal Goverdhun, late foujdar, Jumnadass Samuldas, late chitnese, Chugunlal Jadowrao, late magistrate's sheristedar, and Girdhur Panachund, late stamp darogah, whether each or either of them (but particularly the two first-named) is reputed "an innocent and oppressed man, the victim of a conspiracy," or whether their crimes, oppressions, and corruptions are not matter of public notoriety.

34. There may be some difference among the opinions entertained by the gentlemen named as to when they heard anything on the subject, and first entertained suspicions, and when these suspicions changed to convictions, or whether they ever so changed.

35. But the point on which I wish the Court and the Government to receive full assurance before deciding this grave question (most momentous as regards future corruptions, its punishment and prevention), is whether there is an officer of any experience between the Mhye and Saburmutty rivers who will hold up his hand and proclaim these people, as they have been represented by their agents, their vakeels, and the press, as the innocent victims to mofussil oppression, or whether the whole country joins in one unanimous verdict of "guilty" against them.

36. The Government have entrusted me with the charge of this province, and I should be fairly responsible, if seeing (or believing I see) a grave defect in the system, I did not report it, and endeavour to obtain a remedy; and I am impressed with a most thorough conviction that the present working of the criminal law is unsuited to this province. I trust, however, it may be remedied, and that the system is susceptible of certain modifications. Should it be ruled to the contrary, I apprehend many grave inconveniences and complications will occur; and ultimately it may need the serious consideration of Government, and perhaps be found necessary to put the country under commission.

37. I believe it is in contemplation to alter the police system, and perhaps the present reference may receive consideration at the same time. I beg to be excused observing, that however desirable it may be to improve the chance of detection and apprehension of offenders, it will avail little if final convictions are endangered by a continuance of the present facilities of appeal.

38. The facilities of appeal that now obtain have no parallel in the judicial system in England; a conviction in one of the criminal courts, or at the sessions or assizes in England is final. These facilities, I beg to urge, should be much limited, and the Court of Appeal should not be considered as, or have the attributes of, a Court of Cassation.

39. It appears as erroneous in theory as it is injurious in practice, that a refinement in judicial process, not required for the most civilised people in the world, should be deemed necessary or desirable in a country like this, where the strong arm of power is needed, and where experience has taught that every departure from the principles of government homogenous to the people (not the abuses, but the essentials) have been attended with signal failure.

40. It will be observed there are certain points I have endeavoured to bring under notice within, and others beyond, the jurisdiction of the court, and it is on others an appeal from the court to the Government; but the whole is so connected, I find it impossible to divide the subject. It is therefore submitted

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in this form for the consideration of the Court, and I have also forwarded a copy to Government.

I have &c.
(signed) *A. Bettington*, Magistrate.

(True copy.)
(signed) A. Bettington.

Appendix (A).

STATEMENT of the Prisoner *Jumnadass Samuldass*, Dussa Polwar, Bunnee; occupation, Service; aged about 40 Years; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad; given before the Magistrate of Ahmedabad, 13 September 1849.

I BEG to represent that the charge against me of receiving a bribe of 133 ½ rupees from Duvi Jugjuvon Dulsookram is now being tried before the Court; in which matter I have no defence to make, and I of my free will request that further investigation into this case may be closed. The witnesses whom I called on my part on the 11th instant are here present, but their evidences need not be taken, nor any questions put to them, as I do not intend to offer any defence; and I beg this Court will take the matter into consideration mercifully, and here decide as it may see fit, but not to send the case to be tried by the Session Court. I request that this Court will take my character into consideration, and give its decision.

Question by the *Court.*] There are other charges against you besides the one under trial, and it would be to your own credit to clear yourself of all the imputations against you; but if all the charges are investigated, and your guilt established, it would be good for the end of justice; therefore what have you to say to this?—*Answer.* Whether your Honor investigate one case and decide on it, or investigate a hundred other cases and decide, all will be the same to me; you are my parent. I have further to say, that during the administration of the late Mr. Jackson there were criminal cases against the then sheristadar, Hurgovind Kewul, more in number, and more substantial proofs of guilt than in my case, notwithstanding which, on his expressing contrition, the Sirkar let him off with only the loss of his situation; therefore your Honor is requested to take the matter into consideration, and to do unto me as may be good for me.

By the *Court.*] You must not think to escape punishment with the loss of situation as the sheristadar you mention did?—I, Jumnadass Samuldass, make answer that I take off my turban before the Court, and with much submission pray that the Sirkar is father and mother, and I am the son of a respectable person; and whatever sentence the Sirkar will pronounce against me, I will submit to it and bear it on my head.

By the *Court.*] You now stand before the Court, and all what you say and the character of your statement is clearly understood by the Court, but justice must be done according to the Regulations, therefore it is essential here to record how this case has been disposed of. The Court here orders you that you are not to imagine you ask for pardon at its suggestion or advice, but that of your own free will ask for it, and that you act with the advice and consent of your vakeels, Veerchund Juwere and Kewul Juwere, who are both here now present in court?—I act on the counsel of these my vakeels, and with my free will.

In Sumvut 1898 (A.D. 1841-42) when the mookhee was appointed to the village of Shikpoor, Khanpoor, you are charged with having taken from the mookhee the sum of 301 rupees (in case No. 210 of the calendar for 1849); this charge of bribery is now pending against you, and which it is the Court's intention to inquire into; what answer do you give to this charge?—I will submit to whatsoever decision the Court will order in one case, and do not wish that other cases should be investigated; I therefore pray that this case may be closed.

There is a Government order not to receive chandla (presents); you have broken through this order and received chandla from Hurrewallal Nagurdas and from Lulloobhoy Jumnadass; this charge is pending against you (as case No. 211 of the calendar for this year), and which it is the intention of this Court to inquire into; what answer have you to give to this charge?—I do not wish either of these charges to be investigated.

(signed) *Jumnadass Samuldass.*

Witness,
Vakeel Kewuldass Juwerdass,
Veerchund Juwerdass,
The Vakeels of Jumnadass.

Before me, this 13th September 1849,
(signed) *A. Bettington,*
Magistrate.

(True translation.)
(signed) A. Bettington, Magistrate.

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

Appendix (B.)

CHARGES against *Heeralal Govurdhun*, late Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

1. RECEIVING a bribe of 78 rupees from the Company of Grocers (khandwala), by contribution on the trade, on returning their account-books, which had been seized by the foujdar.

2 Receiving bribe of a pair of shawls, valued 250 rupees, from Sankla Dewchund, a clot merchant, for quashing a charge of false imprisonment of his servant.

3. Receiving a bribe of 50 rupees from Borah Sultanjee Noorbhaee, for quashing a charge of receiving stolen property brought against the said Borah.

4. Receiving a bribe of 75 rupees from certain confectioners (kundoees), for allowing them to profit by the difference in price between the old and the newly introduced weights in their retail business.

5. Receiving a quantity of molasses, valued at *Rs.* 102. 15. 3., Company's currency' under intimidation and extortion, from the Company of Molasses (or gole) Merchants.

6. Receiving bricks and mud for building from the koomars (brickmakers), to the value of *Rs.* 375. 4. 2., and paying only 14 rupees, and at the same time exacting a receipt for the full amount under intimidation.

7. Receiving a bribe of 15 rupees (one rupee was received by the Chukladar Mahomud Rusoolkhan) from Pinjara Mahomud Abdul Ruhim, for allowing him to build a house, after first putting a stop to the work.

8. Receiving a bribe of 150 rupees from the koomars for tolerating the nuisance of allowing their asses the free walk of the town, after first pounding them at the several chokees.

9. Receiving a bribe of 110 rupees from Borah Oosmanbhaee Mahomudbhoy, under threat of prosecution for sorcery.

10. Extorting 240,000 tiles, valued at 488 rupees from the Company of Tilemakers, and, under intimidation, exacting a receipt in full of all demands without paying anything.

11. Receiving a bribe of 30 rupees from Ghanjee Juwer Nursee, for being allowed to place a platform in shop in the Dilhi Durwaza Chukla.

12. Receiving chandla of 69 rupees from several individuals (four persons named in the charge), on the occasion of the marriage of his (the late foujdar's) nephew, and on other ceremonies.

(signed) *A. Bettington*, Magistrate.

Appendix (C.)

TRANSLATION of the Proceedings of a Punchayet, assembled at the Magistrate's Office, Ahmedabad, composed of the following Members:

Seth Hemabhaee Wukutchund, Seth Oomabhaee, of the Firm of Hutteesing Vesreesing, Seth Mugunbhaee Kurumchund, Seth Jugabhaee Khoosaldass, Seth Jethabhoy Mooljee, all resident of Ahmedabad.

The following question is put to the punchayet, by the magistrate of Ahmedabad:

THE city foujdar, Heeralal Gordhun, and Sheristedar Jumnadass Samuldass and Chugunlal Jadowroy are now charged with having received bribes from the people, under undue exercise and force of authority; in regard to these cases, certain account-books are produced, containing certain entries, all which shall now be laid before you for inspection and you are requested to examine them and state whether the several items are according to the rule and usage of account-keeping or not?—*Answer.* We have inspected the account-books belonging to the under-mentioned individuals, viz.,

1. Kundoee Ghela Umbaram.
2. Kundoee Golabchund Kusla.
3. Kundoee Joeeta Nagur.
4. Kundoee Pana Jeewundas.
5. Kundoee Treekum Jeychund.
6. Kundoee Nagur Pitamber.
7. Kundoee Koober Jeewundass.
8. Kundoee Gopal Kewul.
9. Sha Jeychund Pursotum.
10. Khandwala Nuzurali Saleybhoy.
11. Khandwala Jumna Bechurdas.
12. Khandwala Ghela Ambaram.
13. Khandwala Damodhur Kooshal.
14. Sha Lulloo Rajaram.
15. Duve Deoshunker Girjashunker.
16. Khandwala Mohomud Ali Keekabhoy.
17. Purik Bugobhoy Premchund.
18. Sha Petamber Nurbheram.
19. Purik Govind Pursotum.
20. Purik Moolchund Kurumchund.
21. Purik Wurjbhookhun Damodur.
22. Muneedhur Gopal. The items in the books of the person is according to the custom of account kept by "tooneeat" (trader in a small way), and not according to mercantile firms; and as balances are not brought forward in each month, the account-book is therefore suspicious.
23. Sett Chotalal Moteebhoy.
24. Shah

24. Shah Doolub Koosal.
25. Shah Jeychund Tullickchund.
26. Ganchee Juwer. This person's chopra is not according to the rule amongst bankers; these people might keep these accounts in the way exhibited these form* we (the Punchayet) cannot confidently give their opinion on it.
27. Golwala Umrutlal Ghela.
28. Soorujram Purbhooram.
29. Lulloo Petamber.
30. Golwala Motee Sewukram is according to form, but balances are not brought forward.
31. Golwala Umrutlal.
32. Golwala Chotalal Hureewulubdass.
33. Dulsook Khemchund is according to the rule observed amongst tooneeants, and does not appear a made-up thing.
34. Golwala Jetha Hurjeewun.
35. Shah Sankla Dewchund.
36. Bhut Moorleedhur Hurgovund. This person keeps his account according to usage amongst the "tooneats."
37. Golwala Nursee Jumnadass.
38. Golwala Jugjeewun Kasowram.
39. Borah Sultanjee. As a specious entry of this person's chopra, one of the items is entered as "hustay," or entrusted, and seems to be done subsequently, and under a different hand.
40. Shah Wurujlal Natha.
41. Purik Hurrewulub Nagurdas.
42. Duve Jugjeewun Deonath. This person's account-book is written according to the mode observed by villagers, and never before came under review of the Punchayet, and therefore recommend that the same be placed before four individuals from village for inspection.
43. Shah Damodhur Assaram.
44. Borah Oosmanbhaee Mahomud. This person's accounts is written according to custom amongst "tooneants."

* *S. O.*

In the above manner we have inspected the chopras above enumerated, and what occurred to us we have noted above; and as to the rest of the chopras, they are according to the usual form. This we state with due regard to our good faith and conscience.

(signed) *Hemabhaee Wukutchund.*
Oomabhaee, of the Firm of Huttising.
Mugunbhaee Kurumchund.
Juggabhaee Khooshalchund.
Jethabhaee Mooljee.

10 July 1849.

(True translation.)
(signed) A. H. Bettington, Magistrate.

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor. No. 1995 F.

MR. BETTINGTON'S letter contains statements and suggestions of great importance to the due administration of criminal justice.

However unusual and without a precedent the course he has adopted, this letter is forcibly and ably written, leaving upon the mind a strong conviction that the late Foujdar of Ahmedabad was guilty of the grave charges preferred against him; that his oppressions had excited very general hatred and discontent; that his previous character and pursuits rendered him altogether an improper person to have been placed in so responsible an office; and that, but for Mr. Bettington's energetic proceedings, the fear entertained by the people of incurring his enmity would have held him scatheless in the career of pillage and injustice which he was pursuing.

With these opinions we have, however, at present little to do. Mr. Bettington has wound up his letter with the following requests:—

1st. That the Government will be pleased to call for a record of his proceedings, which the Sudder have pronounced illegal.

2d. That they will be pleased to recognise the necessity and validity of preliminary investigations.

3d. That Government will direct counsel to attend and defend in the Sudder Court the convictions of the Mofussil Courts, when canvassed on appeal, by practised barristers and pleaders.

4th. That the Sudder Court will in future, in revising the sentence of a lower criminal court, record and communicate its reasons for this proceeding.

5th. That the Government will obtain the general opinion of the magistrates on the advantages or disadvantages of the present facilities afforded for appeal.

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

He afterwards suggests that a reference on this subject be made to particular gentlemen.

In ordinary cases, many of the points here agitated would be dismissed without consideration, as coming within the province of the Suddur, or altogether uncalled for.

But the statements contained in this letter remove it, in my opinion, out of the pale of ordinary correspondence, and I do not think that it should be treated merely as an injudicious and irregular communication. Much discussion, in which the conduct both of the magistrate and accused has been freely canvassed, has taken place in the public prints on the subject of Hiralol's trial, conviction, and final acquittal. The proceedings have not been submitted to us by the Court.

Before we pronounce on such of Mr. Bettington's suggestions as it may be necessary for Government to decide upon, I think we should have before us these proceedings, and ascertain the grounds on which, after all the pains which the magistrate appears to have bestowed upon the case, the decision of the Session Court of Ahmedabad has been overset, and how a man, who would seem from common report to have been a notorious and profligate scoundrel, has contrived to escape the punishment of his crimes.

Our first step, I think, should be to intimate to the Suddur that we have been furnished by Mr. Bettington with a copy of this letter, and that we shall be glad to receive any remarks or observations which the judges may have to offer in regard to it. We might also request to be favoured with the proceedings of the Session Court of Ahmedabad, and of the Suddur Court in appeal, on the trial, conviction, and reversal of the sentence passed upon the late Foujdar of Ahmedabad, Hiralol Goverdhun.

Referring to para. 28 to 34, the Suddur have already intimated to us that the requirements of Act XII. of 1843, are always observed in drawing up the decrees of the Court, and we have suggested to them the expediency of communicating the grounds of their decisions to the lower courts in criminal cases. As we have as yet been favoured with no reply, we might allude to this letter.

18 February 1851. (signed) *Falkland.*

No. 1995 G.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby.*

THE proceedings herein brought to our notice are of a very extraordinary character; and although Mr. Bettington may, in point of form, be irregular, I think he would have neglected his duty had he not made this report to Government. I concur in the reference to the judges of the Suddur Foujdare Adawlut, and in the receipt of their reply the subject should receive our most attentive consideration, for it involves the purity of the administration of justice.

21 February 1851. (signed) *J. P. Willoughby.*

No. 1995 H.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Blane.*

MR. BETTINGTON's observations appear to me of a very general, theoretical tenor. The proceedings now called for will, however, enable us to judge if there be anything in the cases referred to calling for the interference of Government in the manner suggested.

21 February 1851. (signed) *D. A. Blane.*

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

No. 1995 I.

No. 777 of 1850.—Judicial Department.

To the Registrar of the Suddur Foujdaree Adawlut.

Sir,

With reference to the letter from Mr. Bettington, the magistrate of Ahmedabad, to the Suddur Fouzdaree Adawlut, No. 12, dated the 12th ultimo, a copy of which has been furnished by him to Government, I am directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to request that the judges will be good enough to favour him with the proceedings of the Session Court of Ahmedabad, and of the Sudder Court in appeal, on the trial and conviction, and the ultimate reversal of the sentence passed upon Hiralol Goverdhun, the late Fouzdar of Ahmedabad.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. G. Lumsden*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
23 February 1850.

From the Registrar of the Suddur Fouzdaree Adawlut;
dated 21 February 1850, No. 587.

Jud. Cons. 1850, dated 13 April. No. 3122.

Present: A. Bell, J. Warden, and P. W. Le Geyt, Esqrs.

Sir,

The Court having received a communication from the magistrate of Ahmedabad, dated the 24th ultimo, No. 12, offering certain observations on the administration of criminal justice in this country, suggested by certain cases in his zilla, and intimating that a copy of the same has been laid before the Right honourable the Governor in Council, I am directed to state that, with reference to the cases alluded to, as having been decided by or being now before the Court, the judges have no observations to offer, as their views either are or will be placed upon the records of the Court.

2. In reference to the magistrate's remark, as contained in paras. 6 and 7 of his letter, that the course reported is not opposed to law or justice, I am desired to observe that it is provided in clause 1, section 9, Regulation XII. of 1827, that when the magistrate has reason to believe any person has committed a penal offence, he shall cause the said person to attend before him, when he shall proceed with the trial of the same, being guided for the conduct of such trial by the provisions of chapter 6, of Regulation XIII. of 1827, in clause 2, section 38, of which it is enacted, that evidence shall always be taken in the presence of the prisoner, and the privilege of examining the witnesses shall also be open to him in its fullest extent.

3. Whether the measures adopted and reported in the 8th para. of Mr. Bettington's communication were "essentially necessary" or not, it has been, I am desired to remark, no part of the duty of this Court to determine. It is sufficient for any court of justice to know that they are prohibited by existing law.

4. In regard to Mr. Bettington's opinion that the rule that evidence not having been taken in the presence of the accused is fatal to conviction, it is to be noticed that the magistrate has not drawn clearly the distinction between preliminary inquiry and procedure prescribed in Regulation XII., clause 1st and 2d.

5. In reference to para. 9, I am desired to state that in many intricate cases it is necessary for a magistrate in this country to perform the duties which in England are performed by any attorney for the prosecution, in sifting the matter which forms the subject of complaint; this information is not, however, taken on oath, or in the form of judicial depositions, but as notes of information; when these are complete, the magistrate should then, and not till then, proceed to take the information of a complainant on oath, and on which the apprehension of the accused should immediately follow; thereafter the investigation can only be carried on as is decided in chapter 6 of Regulation XIII. of 1827, in the presence of the prisoner.

6. With reference to para. 12, I am directed to observe that the documents

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

alluded to in section 39, Regulation XIII. of 1827, are either depositions taken in the presence of the prisoner or confessions of the accused.

7. In respect to para. 16, I am desired to state that the Court concurs with Mr. Bettington in the necessity for a law officer of Government defending convictions when appeals are made, and which was suggested to Government, Court's letter, No. 1469, dated 22d May last.

8. I am, in conclusion, to remark, that, although the performance of important duties involving the liberty or happiness of the inhabitants of extensive tracts of the country which, from the nature of circumstances, necessarily devolving in India on young and inexperienced men, renders a system of check and supervision necessary, the judges feel sensibly the vast importance of upholding local authority, and giving as little exercise as possible to the supervision in question; but while this end is only to be reached by the local authority inspiring with confidence both their superiors and those placed under them in a diligent and discreet exercise of the powers with which it is entrusted, so no line of conduct is more calculated to prolong the time when this step towards improved administration can be safely taken than that which Mr. Bettington has unfortunately adopted of shaping his proceedings by what he considers should be, instead of by what is the law, of the truth of which assertion the Court has ample proof in the clamorous appeals which are made to it on each court day against the proceedings of a magistrate who, having the advantage of exercising his authority in a country remote from the court of appeal, would be exempted, by that very position alone, from the annoyance of frivolous and vexatious complaints against his official conduct.

I have, &c.
(signed) *M. Larken*, Registrar.

No. 3123.

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Honourable Board.

THIS may be considered when we receive the judge's reply to our letter of the 23d February 1850 on the same subject.

(signed) *Falkland.*
W. Cotton.
1 March 1850. *J. P. Willoughby.*
D. A. Blane.

Jud. Cons. 1851, 12 March. No. 1355.

From the Magistrate of Ahmedabad, dated 31 July 1849, No. 319.

Sir,

AGREEABLY to clause 3d, section 8, of Regulation XII. of 1827, I have the honour to forward to you copy of a letter from the Session Judge, dated this date, communicating the result of the trial of Heralal Goredhundass, late the Foujdar of Ahmedabad, in which he is found guilty of two instances of bribery and abuse of authority, and is sentenced to five years' imprisonment, without labour.

2. On receiving the Session Judge's advice of this conviction, I have dismissed Heeralal Goredhundass from his situation of foujdar, and appointed in his stead Soorujram Gungaram, lately transferred to me by the Political Agent in the Myhekanta, under whom he has served with credit, and highly recommended by him; he formerly served under, and is highly recommended by Colonel Outram, and being unconnected with people here, I consider him likely to give me efficient aid in preventing the scandalous and corrupt practices which obtained here in the time of the late foujdar, Heralal Goredhundass.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Alb. Bettington*,
Ahmedabad, 31 July 1849. Magistrate.

P. S.—A letter to the above effect has been sent to the Sudder Adawlut this day.

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

Cases No. 76, 77, and 78 of the General Calendar for the Year 1849.

To *Albemarle Bettington*, Esq. Magistrate, Ahmedabad.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you that the prisoner Heralal Gordhundass, committed by you on three separate charges of bribery and abuse of authority as police amildar (foujdar) of the city, has been tried at the Sessions held before me on the 23d, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, and 30th instant, and this day, and convicted in cases Nos. 76 and 78 of the charges preferred against him, and sentenced to suffer five years' imprisonment, without labour.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Spens*,
Session Judge.

Ahmedabad,
Session Court of Adawlut,
31 July 1849.

(True copy.)

(signed) A. Bettington, Magistrate.

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor. No. 1356.

I SUPPOSE that the dismissal of this man is reported, as in the enjoyment of a larger salary than 30 rupees a month.

The magistrate's proceedings may be approved. Clause 3, section 8, of Regulation XII. does not require the dismissal of any of the officers therein referred to, to be reported to Government.

30 August 1849. (signed) *Falkland.*

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby*, subscribed to by the Honourable Mr. *Blane*. No. 1357.

ALTHOUGH it is not probable that this person can be restored to office, I am informed that he has appealed to the judges of the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut; we had better therefore, I think, postpone our decision on his case, until we are informed of the result of his appeal.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby.*
1 September 1849. *D. A. Blane.*

Further MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor. No. 1358.

I HAVE gone through the Sudder Court's proceedings, and those of the Court below, which accompany, and the impression which they have left on my mind is unfavourable to Heralal.

I beg to refer to my minute of the 30th August.

8 July 1850. (signed) *Falkland.*

From the Registrar of the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut; dated 24 August 1849, No. 2364. No. 1359.

Sir,

I AM directed by the judges of the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut to state, for the information of the Right honourable the Governor in Council, that the magistrate of Ahmedabad has in a letter, No. 320, dated the 31st ultimo, reported to the Court, that in consequence of a communication from the Session Judge of Ahmedabad, informing him that Heralal Goverdhundass, late foujdar of that city, had been tried and convicted of the charges of bribery and abuse of authority as police amildar, and sentenced to five years' imprisonment, without labour, he dismissed that individual from his situation of foujdar, and has appointed in his stead Soorujram Gungaram, lately transferred to him by the

Present: J. Warden, P. W. Le Geyt, and G. Grant, Esqrs.

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

Political Agent, in the Myheekaunta, under whom he is stated to have served with credit, and has been highly recommended by him as well as by Colonel Outram, under whom he also formerly served, and being unconnected with people at Ahmedabad, the magistate considers Soorujram Gungaram likely to afford him efficient aid in preventing the scandalous and corrupt practices which obtained in the time of the late foujdar Heralal Goverdhundass.

I have, &c.
(signed) *M. Larken*,
Registrar.

Bombay, Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut,
24 August 1849.

No. 1360.

No. 785 of 1851.—Judicial Department.

To the Acting Magistrate of Ahmedabad.

Sir,

In reply to Mr. Bettington's letter, No. 319, dated the 31st of July 1849, I am directed to inform you that the Right honourable the Governor in Council approves of the dismissal of Heeralal Goverdhun from his situation of foujdar of Ahmedabad, and the appointment in his stead of Soorujram Gungaram.

2. I am at the same time instructed to add, that clause 3, section 8, of Regulation XII. of 1827, quoted by Mr. Bettington, would not appear to require that the dismissal of any of the officers therein referred to should be reported to Government.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. G. Lumsden*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
24 February 1851.

No. 1361.

No. 786 of 1851.

Jud. Cons. 1851, 7 May.

A copy of the above sent to the Sudder Adawlut, with reference to the Registrar's letter, No. 2364, dated 24 August 1849.

No. 3556.

From the Registrar of the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut;
dated 21 March 1851, No. 783.

Sir,

Present: A. Bell, J. Warden, P. W. Le Geyt, Esqrs.

Adverting to 2d para. of your letter, No. 785, dated 24th instant, to the address of the acting magistrate of Ahmedabad, a copy of which was furnished for the information of the Court, under an endorsement of that day's date, No. 786, I am directed to observe, that all appointments to and dismissal from office, where the salary exceeds 30 rupees per mensem, require, agreeably to the orders of Government of the 7th March 1829, to be reported to the Right honourable the Governor in Council.

I have, &c.
(signed) *M. Larken*,
Registrar.

Bombay Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut,
21 March 1851.

No. 3557.

Minute by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby*, subscribed to by the Honourable Mr. *Blane*.

The Sudder to be informed that we were quite aware of the circular instructions referred to, which indeed were noticed in my minute, from which the letter to Mr. Bettington was drafted.

What we remarked was, that clause 3, section 8, Regulation XII., under which alone Mr. Bettington stated that he had referred these cases to Government, did not seem to apply.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby.*
D. A. Blane.

11 April 1851.

Case of Heeralal Govindhur, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

No. 2328 of 1851.—Judicial Department.

To the Registrar of the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut.

No. 3558.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 783, dated the 21st ultimo, I am instructed to state, that the Right honourable the Governor in Council had no intention to question the correctness of the course pursued by Mr. Bettington, in reporting to Government the dismissal from the public service of Heeralal Goverdhun. His Lordship was perfectly aware that the circular order of the 7th March 1829, required that all cases of this kind should be reported. In the 2d para. of my letter to the magistrate of Ahmedabad, dated 24th February last, it was merely observed that clause 3, section 8, Regulation XII. of 1827, had been erroneously quoted as the Regulation under which the man's dismissal had been reported to Government.

I have, &c.
(signed) *J. G. Lumsden*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 30 April 1851.

From the Registar of the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut, No. 860.

Jud. Cons. 1851. 12 March.

No. 1545.

Present: A. Bell, J. Warden, and P. W. Le Geyt, Esqrs.

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 23d ultimo, No. 777, I have the honour, by direction of the judges of the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut, to submit, for the purpose of being laid before the Right honourable the Governor in Council, the proceedings of the Session Court of Ahmedabad, and extracts from those of the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut in appeal, on the trial and conviction, and the ultimate reversal of the sentence passed upon Heeralal Goverdhun, the late foujdar of Ahmedabad.

2. I am instructed, in transmitting these proceedings, to append copies of a minute recorded by Mr. Warden, and of the Court's letter to the judge of Ahmedabad, returning the letter to which the minute in question relates.

I have, &c.
(signed) *M. Larken*,
Registrar.

Bombay Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut, 19 March 1850.

Extracts from the Proceedings held before *Archibald Spens*, Esq., Session Judge of the Zillah of Ahmedabad and its Dependencies.

No. 1546.

Saturday, 21 July 1849.

Heeralal Gordhundass is received this day from the magistrate of Ahmedabad, Mr. Bettington, committed on the 20th July 1849, and who having furnished the requisite bail, is allowed to remain at large.

Monday, 23 July 1849.

The law officers are present.

The Court proceeds with the trial of case No. 76 of 1849.

Read and recorded the papers and proceedings received from the magistrate of Ahmedabad, Mr. Bettington, in the case of the following prisoner, who is placed at the bar:—

Heeralall Gordhundass, aged 39 years; caste, Wania; occupation, lately holding the office of police umildar (foujdar), of the city of Ahmedabad, and an inhabitant of Ahmedabad.

Charged with bribery, in having on the 8th of Bhadrapud Vud, Sumvut 1904, corresponding with 20 September 1848, abused his authority as foujdar of the city of Ahmedabad, by receiving a bribe of 80 rupees, Company's currency, from the prosecutor, Petambar Nurbheram, as a consideration for letting the said prosecutor off on bail after detaining him six days in custody on a charge of having in his possession stolen property, knowing the same to have been stolen from the house of a prostitute named Oomedee, who was murdered.

Prisoner pleads not guilty.

The prosecution commences.

Petambar Nurbharam, aged 45 years; caste, Wania; occupation, Shroff; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

No. 1.

That on the 2d or 3d Bhadrapud Vud last, four sepoys in the service of the foujdar came to his house, and took away the ornaments used by the women of his house, and some clothes; they also caused deponent to accompany them to the foujdar's kutcherry. Depo-

Case of Heeralal Govindhur, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

nent represented to the foujdar that the articles seized belonged to him, and that a list of them would be found in his books. Deponent offered to give security from 1,000 rupees to 25,000 rupees for his attendance whenever required, but it was not accepted, and he was placed in confinement. Deponent was taken up by the foujdar because some property was found in his house which was supposed to have belonged to a prostitute named Oomeedee, who had been murdered, and into which case investigation had been made. Deponent was kept six days in confinement, after which he was released on furnishing security for his appearance in the sum of 1,000 rupees. After being released, deponent met his nephew, Phoolchund Hurruckchund, who told him that there had been a run on his shop, and that his family had been much distressed, and that therefore he and deponent's goomashta had together given 80 rupees to the foujdar, Heeralall, to obtain his release; that the foujdar had returned one rupee for the sake of the temple, and had kept 74 rupees for himself, and put aside five rupees for his carkoon, Narun; he also required Phoolchund to give one rupee for dedication to the temple of "Nutwurlaljee." Phoolchund went home with deponent, where he was informed by Phoolchund and his goomashta, Chuggun, that the money had been taken from the shop funds, also that the foujdar had sent for his books and papers for the purpose of ascertaining whether the ornaments, &c., taken from the house belonged to deponent. The money was paid the very day deponent was released; Phoolchund and his goomashta told him this. Deponent was released at four or five o'clock in the afternoon, and the same evening an entry was made by his goomashta in deponent's books of the payment of the money to the foujdar; it was paid in Bombay rupees, and entered in deponent's books in Bombay rupees. No suspicion having remained against deponent, all the articles taken from his house were returned, the same having been found to be his own private property, which he had possessed for years. Deponent does not know at whose instance he was seized; the account books above alluded to were old ones of former years; the books for the current year were not taken with the others; the books were not seized, but were produced by deponent to goomashta to prove the ownership of the property. The account now produced is the day-book for the year Sumvut 1904, and the entry of the 80 rupees was made in it on the 8th Bhadrapud Vud. Deponent met his nephew Phoolchund as he was leaving the kutcherry the day of his release. Phoolchund died about two or three months after the above took place; he did not live in the same house with deponent.

Question by Prisoner.] At the time you say the sepoys came to your house to seize your property, did any prisoners who had been charged with the murder accompany them?—*Answer.* Yes, three prisoners came with them.

Did the sepoy seize the property because it was pointed out by these prisoners, or how?—The sepoys called everything together, and took away what they wanted; the prisoners were outside the house at the time.

Did not one of the prisoners ask you if he had not given in pledge to you the things which were taken away, and had obtained money from you?—No.

Did he say so in the kutcherry?—I do not remember.

After the pantaloons were found in your house, did your goomashta go to any Moossulman woman regarding them?—One Dosunboo, a Mussulmanee, pledged the trowsers and other things with me for 18 rupees, and I took a bond from her for the amount on this account; the goomashta may have gone, but I know nothing about it.

Was not security taken from your goomashta in consequence of his having gone to the Mussulmanee's house?—There is an entry of eight annas in my books on account of expense incurred in regard to a security bond on account of Chuggun; I was in confinement at the time, and knew nothing more.

In what court was the charge brought against you investigated in the case of the woman Oomedee, who was murdered?—No charge was preferred against me; other persons were tried for the murder of Oomeedee, and I was sent up as a witness in the case, but my evidence was not taken, and the articles taken from my house were restored to me.

Did any person hear you offer to give security to the extent of 25,000 rupees?—Many people were present, and the goomashta of Ruttenjee Khandass, and Raijee Kandass and others, were ready to become my security; they told me they had come to the kutcherry for that purpose.

Did I not tell you that you could not be released on security while under a charge of murder?—Yes, you did say so.

Have you to this day ever complained that I took 80 rupees from you as a bribe?—No; if I had done so, I could not have remained in the city. I did not do so from fear.

How did you now bring forward your complaint?—A sepoy came to my house, and took away my chopras. Thirteen days after, the magistrate called me, and asked me if I had paid any bribe to the foujdar, and I told what I knew, and pointed out the item in the book.

[Prisoner having no more questions to ask, witness retires.

No. 2. Recorded an extract from the account-book of an entry alluded to by the above witness.

No. 3. *Chuggun Gopal*, aged 25 years; caste, Wania, occupation, Goomashta; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

Is a goomashta in the service of Asharam Boola, and has been with him four months; was formerly in the service of Petamber Nurbheram. About the month Bhadrapud last, some persons

Case of Heeralal Govindhur, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

persons murdered a prostitute named Oomeedee, and on some account suspicion arose that deponent's master had some of the stolen property in his house; on which account the foujdar, Heeralall, had him seized in his shop, and taken to the kutcherry, where he was placed in confinement. He had remained there four or five days, when Petamber's nephew, Phoolchund, came, and told deponent that the city people said that if something were given to the foujdar, he would be released, otherwise he would not be released. Deponent told Phoolchund to arrange the matter with the foujdar. He went to the foujdar's house, and returned, saying he had agreed with him to take 80 rupees, from which 75 rupees was intended for the foujdar, and 5 rupees for his carkoon, Narun. Deponent took 80 rupees from the shop funds, and gave to Phoolchund, who tied it in his "kumberbund," and they both went to deliver the money to the foujdar; it was then about eight o'clock in the morning. Phoolchund took the money up-stairs. Deponent remained sitting on the "oatla." A little while after the foujdar came down, and Phoolchund with him. Deponent asked the foujdar whether he would release his master; he answered, "Yes; come to the kutcherry, and he will be released." Deponent asked whether he received the "unamut;" he answered, that he had got 80 rupees. Deponent did not see the money again with Phoolchund he said he had paid to the foujdar; that he had got one rupee back from the foujdar for dedication to the temple, and told deponent to give a rupee also, which he did. At 10 or 11 o'clock deponent went to the kutcherry, and security was taken from Petumber for 1,000 rupees, and he was released. They then went home, and he and Phoolchund told Petumber all that they had done on his account; he said it could not be helped, and that the money must be entered in the books, which was done. Endeavour was made to release Petumber on security; but the foujdar would not accept it at that time. Does not know why his master was placed in confinement, but heard it was because he had received in pledge stolen property. The prisoner at the bar is the same Heeralall, the late foujdar of the city.

Question by Prisoner.] Was security taken from you in the case of the prostitute, Oomeedee, who was murdered?—*Answer.* Yes, security was taken from me to the extent of 100 rupees. My master had told me to go to Dosumboo, and tell her about a pair of pantaloons which had been taken away by the sepoy, and which she had pledged with him. The foujdar asked why I had gone there, and took security from me.

Did I take your statement and Dosumboo's and your master's on the same day?—Yes, you did; but Dosumboo was called again to the kutcherry the following day.

Did any prisoner come with the sepoys to search your master's house, and did the prisoner point out any property?—I met the prisoner and sepoys as they were returning from my master's house, and do not know whether they pointed out the property.

[Prisoner having no more questions to ask, witness retires.

[The Court adjourns, from the lateness of the day.

(signed) *A. Spens,* Session Judge.

Tuesday, 24 July 1849.

The law officers are present.

The Court proceeds with the trial of case No. 76 of 1849, postponed on the 23d instant.

The prisoner, *Heeralall Gordhundass,* is placed at the bar.

The evidence for the prosecution continued.

Read and recorded a vakalutnama, entered in the name of Beehur Dhunfee. No. 4.

Read and recorded extracts from the proceedings of the foujdar, Heeralall Gordhundass, (prisoner) held before him between the 15th September and 21st October 1848, from which it appears that Petamber Nurbheram was apprehended by his order, on the 15th September 1848, on a charge of having received stolen property, which had belonged to Oomedee, a prostitute, who had been murdered, knowing the same to have been stolen property, and that the said Petamber was the same day placed in confinement; that on the 20th September he was released on furnishing security to the amount of 1,000 rupees. No. 5.

Read and recorded petition of Chotalall Petamber, addressed to the magistrate, Mr. Fawcett, dated 18th September, complaining that his father had been confined for four days in the kutcherry, on a charge of receiving stolen property, and that he had attended at the kutcherry daily, and tendered security to the extent of 2,000 rupees, which, for some reason, had been refused, and praying that his father might be liberated on giving security, according to the Regulations. No. 6.

Read and recorded a security bond, entered into by Narrun Hurrukchund and Goolabchund Hurrukchund, to the effect that they were security, to the extent of 1,000 rupees, for the attendance of Petamber Nurbheram at the kutcherry, as long as required, dated 20th September 1848. No. 7.

Sewshunkur Lukmeeshunkur, aged 29 years; caste, Nagur; occupation, Service, Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having being duly admonished: No. 8.

Is acting revenue sheristedar in the collector's office; knows the prisoner at the bar; would know his signature if shown to him. The document shown bears the signature of the prisoner in five places; at the bar the document was written. The prisoner was foujdar

Case of Heeralal Govindhur, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

of the city of Ahmedabad; it is copy of the proceedings held before him as foujdar. The signature on the security bond, No. 7, is also that of the prisoner. The order on the document, No. 6, being an urzee from Chotalall Petamber, is signed by the late collector, Mr. Fawcett.

[Prisoner having no questions to ask, witness retires.

For the satisfaction of the Court, the undermentioned leading sowcars of the city of Ahmedabad are called into the Court:

No. 9. *Hemabhaee Wukutchund, Muggunbhaee Kurrumchund, Juggabhaee Kooshal, Jettabhaee Mooljee,* and *Oomabhaee Noopchund,* who, having examined the account-book or chopra produced by the prosecutor, are of opinion that the accounts of the prosecutor have been kept according to the usual manner of keeping accounts.

Heemabhaee Wukutchund and others retire.

The case for the prosecution here closes, and the prisoner is called on for his defence.

No. 10. Read and recorded statement made by the prisoner before the magistrate of Ahmedabad, on the 20th July 1849, to the following effect:

That he denies having taken a bribe of 80 rupees from Petamber Nurbheram, and all knowledge of the matter; that the whole is a lie; that he is distressed (gabree); and that the evidence has been got up against him "*ex parte.*"

Admitted by the prisoner.

The prisoner is asked if he has anything further to say; he states that he has, and begs that the following may be recorded:

That he went from Baroda to Bombay in the year 1842, and in many matters afforded much assistance to the Government, particularly in the case of Dackjee Dadajee, and other sowcars of Baroda, who had plundered the Guicowar of large sums of money; he also gave assistance to the magistrate in discovering the famous Bunder gang, in Bombay, and led to the detection of Alloo Paroo and others, who had set fire to the ships in the China trade, and had, in consequence, received from Government the sum of 2,500 rupees as a reward for his services, having till then served the Government without pay. That when Mr. Fawcett, late Collector of this place, came to Bombay in 1845, the Governor and the magistrate requested him to provide for him by giving him a situation in Ahmedabad, and, in consequence, he was appointed foujdar of Ahmedabad the same year, and, under instruction from the Governor, the magistrate of Bombay held a durbar, on the occasion of his leaving Bombay, and presented him with a pair of shawls. That he has since served the Government to the best of his ability, and improved the state of the city police. That Captain Curtis, superintendent of police in Bombay, being aware of the value of his services, had applied to Government to give him a salary of 150 rupees per mensem, as a superintendent of police in Bombay, but the proposal was not agreed to. The magistrate of Suart also asked for his services; he was, however, in affliction at the time, having lost his only child; and, moreover, the inhabitants of the city of Ahmedabad had petitioned the magistrate to keep him there; that he therefore remained, and in consequence of being the first to introduce, under the orders of the magistrate, new weights and measures, by which means many people lost much money, he had brought upon himself the ill-will of many; and further, in consequence of his having conducted his police duties strictly, he had many enemies, and that he had therefore applied to call his friends to have him removed from his present situation.

That with regard to the present charge, he sent his peons to search the prosecutor's house, in consequence of his name having been mentioned by the prisoners in the case. That the prosecutor's family had petitioned the judge and collector that he might be released on security, but that they had informed them that they could not interfere in such a matter in a murder case. That afterwards, on receiving orders from the Collector, he released the prosecutor on his furnishing security; and, having acted in accordance with orders, how could he have obtained a bribe?

That the witness Chuggun had stated that he had gone to his (prisoner's) house with Phoolchund, and that Phoolchund had gone up-stairs, leaving him Chuggun below, and that on his going down, Chuggun had asked him whether he had received the money; but what was there to prevent Chuggun also coming up? That he, Chuggun, had taken the name of a person who was dead, knowing how difficult it would be to find any person living to join with him, and that there was nothing to prevent Chuggun from taking the money himself for the purpose of defrauding his master. That, at the time in question, he was not living at the place where it is said the money was paid, and that he was always surrounded with a number of sepoys, who would take cognizance of anything of the sort which might have taken place; and that both the prosecutor and his goomashta had shown enmity to him since the time he took security from them. That if their story was true, why had they not complained before now? But Petamber was a man of bad character, and he could prove it. That the new collector, Mr. Bettington, had refused to see him on his arrival, and had at once suspended him and sent him to Dhundoka, and had listened to his enemies without giving him an opportunity of defending himself. That the whole city had risen up against him, and he was miserable; and that witnesses may be called to prove that he was not living at the place where the bribe is said to have been paid. That he has not slept there since Shravun Shood last (August 1848), and only sometimes goes there; but generally he remains at his house, and has never gone to the "della" (stable) in the morning. Has nothing more to say.

Proceedings

Case of Heeralal Govindhur, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

Proceedings are closed, and the Court proceeds to record its

FINDING.

The offence alleged against the prisoner, who was at the time it is said to have been committed, foujdar of the city of Ahmedabad, consists in his having received a bribe of 80 rupees from the prosecutor, Petamber Nurbheeram, as a consideration for letting him off on bail, after having detained him six days in custody, on a charge of having in his possession stolen property, knowing the same to have been stolen.

The prisoner pleaded not guilty.

Bribery is an accusation easily made, and in general difficult to prove, and not less difficult to defend. Many witnesses to such transactions are seldom forthcoming, but the Court is of opinion that in the present case the statements of the proseeutor and his goomashta, are borne out by the documentary evidence recorded under Nos. 5, 6, & 7, in such a manner that there can be no doubt of the guilt of the prisoner.

Petamber Nurbheram, the prosecutor, deposes: That on the 2d or 3d Bhadrapud Vud, corresponding with 15th September 1848, four sepoys came to his shop and took him, and certain ornaments and clothes which they found in his house, to the foujdar's kutcherry, on a charge of his having received the property, knowing it to have been stolen from a prostitute named Oomedee, who had been murdered. That he represented to the foujdar that the articles seized were his own property, and that he could prove them to be such by his accounts. That notwithstanding the foujdar ordered him into confinement, and refused to liberate him on bail, although he had offered to find security for his attendance in any sum from 1,000 rupees to 25,000 rupees. That he was kept in confinement for six days, and was released on furnishing security in the sum of 1,000 rupees, in consequence of his nephew and goomashta having given to the prisoner a bribe of 80 rupees.

Chuggun Gopal, who was at the time goomashta to the prosecutor, but has since left his service, corroborates his late master's statement regarding his seizure and confinement. He deposes further, that he had heard that the foujdar was open to a bribe, and that, in consequence, he had sent Phoolchund, prosecutor's nephew, to arrange the matter with him; that Phoolchund accordingly visited the foujdar, and agreed to pay 80 rupees to have the prosecutor released; that he took 80 rupees from the shop funds, and gave the money to Phoolchund to deliver to the foujdar; that they went together; that Phoolchund went upstairs with him, while he remained below seated on the "oatla," and that shortly after the foujdar came down, and Phoolchund with him; that he (Chuggun) there asked the prisoner whether he would release his master, and received an answer that he would be released the same day, and on a further question, acknowledged having received the 80 rupees. That he (Chuggun) did not see the money with Phoolchund again, who said that he had paid it to the foujdar, who had given him back one rupee for dedication to the temple, and told deponent to give a rupee also for the same purpose, which he did; that his master was in consequence released the same day, on his giving security for 1,000 rupees, which up till that time had been refused.

The above evidence, although given in an unhesitating and straightforward manner, the Court might not have considered sufficient, had it not been supported by the documents recorded under Nos. 5, 6, and 7, which are convincing to the Court that the charge could not have been got up.

The Court finds from these, two of which (5 and 7) are public documents, duly authenticated, proved, and the third (No. 6), a petition from the son of the prosecutor, presented to the magistrate Mr. Fawcett, and bearing an endorsement of his, that the foujdar had ordered the apprehension of the prosecutor on the 15th September 1848, on a charge of having received stolen property; no mention whatever is made of his connexion with the murder of the woman Oomedee, yet he is kept in confinement, and bail refused for six days, although from the document No. 7, it appears that ample security had been tendered; at the end of six days the security bond was entered into in behalf of the prosecutor, and he was released; and it will be seen on reference to the account-book of the prosecutor, that the item 80 rupees is set down as having been paid on the very day (8th Bhadrupud Vud) Petamber was liberated, and entered as a bribe or present to the foujdar, in the case of the prostitute. It is proved by the leading sowcars of the city that the account-books of the prosecutor are kept according to the usual manner in which such accounts are kept; other entries follow in order, and there is nothing to cause a suspicion that the entry is fraudulent. The prosecutor could not then have anticipated that the foujdar would be brought to trial, and it is not likely otherwise that he would have deliberately made such a false entry 10 months before in his accounts.

The prisoner's defence bears but little on the charge; the Court doubts not that he was an active magistrate, and has done good services; it is only the more to be lamented that he should have been sold away.

His assertion that he could not release the prosecutor, because he was under confinement in a case of murder, is unfortunate for him, for from his own proceedings held in the murder case, it does not appear that the prosecutor was even suspected of being concerned in the murder; it is stated at the time of his apprehension that it was on account of receiving stolen property; and at any rate, if any objection then existed for refusing to accept bail, the prosecutor was in no better position on the day of his release.

The prisoner submits that the goomashta might have defrauded his master, and appropriated the 80 rupees to himself, but it must be remembered that Phoolchund, the other immediate party to the transaction was then alive, and did not die for two or three months after.

Case of Heeralal Govindhur, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

The Court is not disposed to attribute much importance to any part of the defence; it is very likely that the prisoner did not inhabit the accommodation above the "della," or stable, where the bribe is said to have been taken, as a place of residence, but he may have gone there occasionally, and it may have been the very place where he generally met people seeking private audience of him, and where people wishing to offer a bribe would likely follow him, for it is nearly as disreputable to offer as to receive in such cases.

The Court having duly considered the oral evidence in this case, backed so strongly by the documents entered on the proceedings, finds the prisoner guilty of the charge as laid down in the indictment.

The Court therefore convicts the prisoner of the same, namely, of having on the 8th of Bhadrapud Vud, Sumvut 1904, coeresponding with 20th September 1848, abused his authority as foujdar of the city of Ahmedabad, by receiving from the prosecutor, Petamber Nurbheram, as a consideration for letting the said prosecutor off on bail, after detaining him six days in custody on a charge of having in his possession stolen property, knowing the same to have been stolen from the house of a prostitute named Oomedee, who was murdered, but defers passing sentence pending the result of two other cases against him at present before the Court.

[Adjourned.

(signed) *A. Spens,*
Session Judge.

(True extract.)
(signed) A. Spens, Session Judge.

Extract from the Proceedings held before *Archibald Spens,* Esq., Session Judge of the Zillah of Ahmedabad and its Dependencies.

Wednesday, 25th July 1849.

The law officers are present.

The Court resumes its sittings, and proceeds with the trial of case No. 77 of 1849.

Read and recorded the papers and proceedings received from the magistrate of Ahmedabad, Mr. Bettington, in the case of the following prisoner, who is placed at the bar:

Heeralall Gordhundass, aged 39 years; caste, Wamia; occupation, holding lately the office of Police Umildar (Foujdar) of the city of Ahmedabad, and an inhabitant of the city of Ahmedabad.

Charged with bribery, in having on Sunday the 12th of Bhadrapud Vud, Sumvut 1904, corresponding with 24th September 1848, in abuse of his authority as police umildar (foujdar) of the city of Ahmedabad, unlawfully received as bribe from the prosecutor, Lalloo Rajaram, the sum of fifty (50) rupees, of the Ahmedabad sicca currency, as a consideration for releasing him from confinement.

Prisoner pleads not guilty.

The prosecution commences.

No. 1. Read and recorded a vakalutnamah from the prisoner, in the name of Bechur Dhunjee.

No. 2. *Lubloo Rajaram,* aged 27 years; caste, Wania; occupation, Usurer; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

In the month of Bhadrapud last, or about 10 months ago, he left home on business, and returned about 10 or 11 o'clock, and found guards round his house; two or three prisoners were there; they said that they had come to search his house; that some person had murdered a prostitute, named Oomedee, near the Peer Mahomedsha Roza within the city, and that he was suspected of being concerned in it. Deponent told them to enter and search, but they all went away except one sepoy, who remained there on guard. At about 12 o'clock another sepoy came, and with him a prisoner named Jetta; the sepoy who had been on guard had the key of the door; he had before deponent's arrival turned out his father, mother, &c., and locked the door; they opened the door, and then opened a box, the key of which deponent gave them; they took out the ornaments which were in it, and put aside such of them as were worn by women, to the value of 1,000 or 1,200 rupees, which the sepoy told deponent to take himself to the foujdar's kutcherry in the Bhadar; deponent did so, and reached the office at about three o'clock, and produced the ornaments. At this time the foujdar was inquiring into the murder of Oomedee, and one of the prisoners before him, whose name deponent forgets, pointed out a pair of golden bracelets which deponent's mother usually wore. Deponent did not hear what the prisoner said, but he believes that it was to the effect that he thought the bangles had belonged to the deceased. Deponent said that the ornaments were his, that he had them lately made up for the use of his mother, and that he could immediately prove this; he was paid no attention to, but desired to sit down, and a sepoy was placed over him. He then considered that the foujdar was tyrannical, and would imprison him, and begged of the foujdar to send for Hurgwun, a goldsmith, who had manufactured the articles, and one Jetha Phoolchund, who had got them made for him. The foujdar sent to call these witnesses, but meanwhile deponent met a man named Pundia Kawul Lukmechund, an associate of the foujdar's, and said to him that it was getting late, and begged him to make arrangements, and give money and get him released. Kawul returned about three quarters of an hour after, and said that the foujdar would release deponent if he paid him 50 rupees. Deponent asked if less would not do; deponent agreed, and begged to be let off on giving security. It was then about five

Case of Heeralal Govindhur, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

five o'clock. Deponent gave the required security, to the extent of 200 rupees, and was released, but did not then give the 50 rupees; he had not the money by him; but on the faith of Kawul he was released and went away, leaving the bracelets with the foujdar, which were in value 100 rupees. After this, deponent went daily to the kutcherry. Kawul two or three days after dunned him for the 50 rupees; deponent put off, saying he had not then got it, but subsequently, some 10 or 12 days after, he paid it. He got the money from Nalchund Heemchund in the name of his father's firm; deponent transacts business in partnership with his father, and thus got the money; it was paid in sicca rupees. Deponent then went direct to the foujdar's house; it was about 10 or 11 o,clock; when opposite Ruttunpole he met a friend of his, named Munsook Narrun; he asked deponent where he was going; deponent answered that he owed the foujdar 50 rupees, and was going to pay it; did not say on what account, as he and everybody knew well enough, and as they were going the same road, he accompanied deponent to the "della," where the foujdar was. There was a sepoy there, whom deponent asked where the foujdar was; does not know the name of the sepoy, or who he was; there were two or three sepoys there. Deponent went up-stairs as directed, leaving Munsook seated below on the "oatla." The foujdar was alone, seated at the window, sitting doing nothing; deponent paid him 50 rupees, counting the money over. Deponent desired the foujdar to tell Kawul to cease dunning him for the coin; he said he would, and desired deponent to go away; he went down stairs and told Munsook that he had paid the money, and Munsook came with him as far as Punchbhaies Pole, and they then separated; Munsook came out of his way a little to go with deponent, and conversed with him on the matter. Deponent remained about half a ghurry (up-stairs). The same evening deponent entered the amount in his father's chopra, previous to which deponent's father had credited it to Nalchund Heemchund, who had sent to say that deponent had taken the money. Deponent's father told him to go and get the money from Nalchund, and he was aware why it was required. There might have been as much money in the house as 50 rupees, but it was thought better to get it from Nalchund, in case it might be wanted. The pair of bangles were returned 10 or 15 days after. The chopra now produced is in his father's name; the entry is in page 140, and is dated 12 Bhadrapud. Never before that day went to the fowjdar's house; it was on a Sunday, and therefore the fowjdar was not engaged in business; does not know whether it is customary to tell one's friend when a person is going to give a bribe. Deponent had the money tied up in his cloth, and Munsook saw where it was, but did not see the money at the time deponent was in the fowjdar's office. He offered the 50 rupees through Kawal, being afraid of being placed in confinement and losing his character. Was aware that the fowjdar had called the goldsmith and Jettia Phoolchund to prove that the ornaments were his; they came in a "ghurree" or two; they were not examined before deponent, but he heard afterwards that the fowjdar had asked them about the bangles. Does not know whether he offered the bribe before or after the two witnesses came; deponent was outside, and did not see when they came. Kawal is not a servant of the fowjdar; deponent does not know what he is, but deponent applied to him, knowing him to be intimate with the fowjdar, but does not know whether he drives, or goes in his carriage; does not know where Kawal now is; people said that Kawal had the ear of the fowjdar, therefore deponent applied to him.

Question by Prisoner.] You have stated that a sepoy was placed over you; if such were the case, how could you have applied to Kawal?—*Answer*. I went out to make water; the sepoy was at a little distance, about five or six "hauts;" at this time Kawal came there, and I mentioned the subject to him; the place where I made water was on one side; about 20 or 25 paces from the office.

Is it usual for Nalchund Heemchund to send and inform your father on all occasions when you take up money from him?—Yes.

Would your father have entered the 50 rupees before asking you whether you had taken up money?—My father was aware of the circumstances under which the money was required.

How did you know that I had told Kawal that I would accept 50 rupees?—Kawal came and told me; he beckoned to me to come to him; the sepoy who was on guard over him did not prevent him.

What difficulty would there have been in your coming to me in the kutcherry at the time your witnesses arrived?—I did not know when the two witnesses arrived.

Were you not called before me at the time security was taken from you, and could you not then have applied to me to examine your witnesses?—I had not eaten all day, and was confused.

[Prisoner having no more questions to ask, witness retires.

The account-book of Rajaram Shunkur, father of prosecutor, is produced, examined, and compared with the extract recorded, No. 3.

In which the item 50 rupees is entered as follows:—

No. 3.

Cr.		*Dr.*	
Rupees 50, in favour of Nalchund Heemchund, brought by Lalloobhaee. Bhadrapud Vud 12.		*Rs.* 50, Sha Rajaram Shunkur. Bhadraphud Vud 12, Sunday. 50 rupees ready cash, on account of the case of Lalloobhaee, paid to the Foujdar Heeralall.	

Case of Heeralal Govindhur, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

Moolchund Runchore, aged 32 years; caste, Coonbee; occupation, Goomasta; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad; deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

No. 4. Is goomasta to Nalchund Heemchund. Has brought his master's chopra with him. At page 289, there is an entry of 50 rupees against Rajaram Sunkur, dated Bhadrapud 12, Sunday, paid to his son, Lalloo. Deponent does not know why Lalloo got the money.

Question by Prisoner.] At what time of day did Lalloo come for the money?—*Answer.* Lalloo came for his money at about 9 o'clock.

[Prisoner having no further questions to ask, witness retires.

No. 5. Recorded an extract from the account-book of an entry alluded to by the above witness.

No. 6. *Munsook Narran*, aged 40 years; caste, Wanea; occupation, Usurer; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad; deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duty admonished:

Knows Heeralall, the prisoner at the bar; he was formerly fowjdar of the city. One day last year, in Bhadrapud, deponent had gone out to collect money, and came to Ruttunpole at about 10 or 11 o'clock, where he met Lalloo Rajaram, a neighbour of his, though not a friend, only an acquaintance. Lalloo asked where he was going, and deponent answered, to collect some debts. Witness asked Lulloo where he was going; he said that he had come under a charge in the case of a prostitute who had been murdered, in which he had agreed to pay 50 rupees to Heeralall, the fowjdar, and was going there to pay it to him, and asked deponent to accompany him; he had the money tied in his cloth. They went to the "della," where the fowjdar was. Lalloo asked a sepoy where the fowjdar was, and then went up-stairs with the money, leaving deponent sitting on the "oatta." Lulloo remained up-stairs some 10 minutes, and when he came down he said that he had paid the money to the fowjdar. They then went a short distance together, and then separated. Deponent did not ask Lulloo where he had got the money. Did not know before that Lalloo had promised to pay the 50 rupees. Deponent saw the fowjdar looking over the window as they were leaving his house, and Lulloo called out to him to desire Kawal not to dun him any more for the money. Kawal is a man who is always frequenting the fowjdar's house; this is known to everybody; deponent has seen him going there. People said that Kawul was the go-between when the fowjdar took a bribe; deponent does not know that he actually was. Deponent is in the habit of meeting Lulloo; sometimes may have accompanied him. Does not recollect on what day of the week the above happened; it was 10 or 11 months ago; but remembers the circumstances and the month, as his mother died that month, and the charge against Lulloo was made the same month.

Question by Prisoner.] Is Lalloo in the habit of telling his secrets to you?—*Answer.* Sometimes; it suits him to do so.

You say that you and Lalloo are merely acquaintances; why therefore should he have told you about this 50 rupees?—Perhaps he did not care about keeping the matter to himself.

[Prisoner having no more questions to ask, witness withdraws.

No. 7. Read and recorded extract from proceedings of the fowjdar Huralall (prisoner), dated 13th September 1848.

From which it appears that a havildar was directed by the fowjdar to search the house of the prosecutor, who took from thence a pair of bangles, and produced them before the fowjdar; that the bangles were seized on the information of Jetta Rao, a prisoner, as having been the property of the deceased Oomeedee, and that bail was taken the same day from the prosecutor.

No 8. Read and recorded further proceedings of the fowjdar in the case of the prostitute Oomeedee, dated 20th September 1848.

From which it appears that the bangles were returned on that day, as it had not been proved that they belonged to the prostitute.

No. 9. *Lalloo Manukchund*, aged 25 years; caste, Wanea; occupation, Service; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad; deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

Knows the signature of the fowjdar; the two documents now shown bear his signature in many places.

[Prisoner having no questions to ask, witness retires.

No. 10. *Rajaram Sunkur*, aged 61 years; caste, Wanea; occupation, Usurer; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad; deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

The chopra shown is deponent's; the item 50 rupees, at page 140, was a sum which deponent's son, Lalloo, had agreed to pay to the Fowjdar Heeralall (prisoner), in the case of a prostitute who was murdered, to obtain his release. Deponent told his son to get the money from Nalchund and pay it, and Lalloo told deponent that he had done so. Deponent is satisfied that his son, Lalloo, paid the money to the fowjdar on this account and no other. Deponent has a running account with Nalchund, and placed that amount to his credit the same day.

[Prisoner having no questions to ask, witness retires.

For the satisfaction of the Court, the under-mentioned officers are called into Court:

No. 11. *Umbasunkur Brijaree*, Principal Sudder Ameen, and Mr. *E. C. Watkins*, Sudder Ameen.

That

That they have examined the account-books of Rajaram Shunkur and Nalchund Heemchund, and that both books are kept according to usual custom, and appear to them correct and worthy of confidence. Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

Umbashunkur and Mr. Watkins retire.

The proceedings on the side of the prosecution here terminate, and the prisoner is placed on his defence.

Read and recorded statement made by the prisoner, Heeralall Gordhundass, before the magistrate, Mr. Bettington, on the 20th July 1849, denying having taken a bribe from Lalloo Rajaram, and all knowledge of the matter. No. 12.

Admitted by the prisoner.

The prisoner is asked if he has anything else to urge in his defence.

The prisoner begs for time to prepare his defence, urging that he is not now in a condition to defend himself, but will be prepared to-morrow morning; and wishes Pranshunkur, Unubashunkur, and Oomeeashunkur Luckmeeshunkur to be called, to prove that on the day in question he did not go to the "della;" also Oojmulal Hukunchund, Tullukchund Himutram, and Himutram Hergovind, who were with him on that day; which day he urges is remarkable and to be remembered, as on it his brother-in-law was attacked with hydrophobia, of which he died the following day.

Issued summonses for the attendance of the above witnesses. No. 13.

The Court, having complied with the above request, is adjourned.

(signed) *A. Spens*, Session Judge.

Thursday, 26 July 1849.

The law officers are present.

The Court resumes its sittings, and Case No. 77 of 1849, postponed on the 25th instant, is proceeded with.

The prisoner, *Heeralull Gowhundass*, is placed at the bar.

The defence is continued.

Oomeeashunkur Lukmeeshunkur, aged 32 years; caste, Brahmin; occupation, Doctor (hukeem); Inhabitant of Ahmedabad; deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished: No. 14.

Is acquainted with the prisoner; he was lately fowjdar of the city. Deponent occasionally went to his house to administer medicine, &c.

Question by Prisoner.] Did you attend Gella Bhanjee; relate the circumstances?—*Answer.* Yes; on the 12th Bhadrapud Vud last, I was sent for at about daylight to attend him, as he was said to be very sick, having been bitten by a mad dog. I went immediately to his house in Dhunwa Soota's pole; a hukeem, named Pranshunkur, was there, and Gella was very ill. While I was there, the prisoner, Heeralall, and Lulla Paruk and others came and sat there. At 12 o'clock Heeralall told the others to go and bathe, but he remained himself till three o'clock, and I and Pranshunkur stayed there. Heeralall went away at three o'clock, and returned in two ghurrees, when I went home.

By the Court.] Did Gella die, and when?—He died the following day, at eight o'clock.

This happened 11 months ago; how do you remember all these particulars, and are at once able to name the day of the month?—Because my mother died 11th Bhadrapud, and I was called the next day.

Was Heeralall in Gella's house at the time you went there?—No.

When did he come, and did he leave the house?—At about seven or half-past seven o'clock, and he did not leave the house until three o'clock.

How far is Dhunna Soolar's pole from the house of Heeralall?—By the carriage road it may be half a coss, by the footpath half that distance.

[Prisoner having no more questions to ask, witness retires.

Pranshunkur Umba Shunkur, aged 51 years; caste, Brahmin; occupation, Doctor; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad; deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished: No. 15.

Is acquainted with the prisoner at the bar.

Question by Prisoner.] Did you attend the deceased, Gella Bhemjee, when attacked with the hydrophobia; explain the circumstances, and who you saw there?—*Answer.* Yes; I was summoned to his house one morning at about sunrise on the 12th last Bhadrapud Vud, and gave medicine to him. Nobody was there when I went except the people of the house; shortly after, about two ghurrees, Heeralall came; a hukeem, named Oomee Sunkur, also came, and two or three other relatives of Gella; I remained there till one or two o'clock, during which time the prisoner, Heeralall, was there; he did not leave the house during the time I remained with the deceased, and when the prisoner was not in the room I heard him talking, and am sure he did not leave the house.

By the Court.] When did Gella die?—He died next day, at about eight o'clock p.m.

How do you so well remember the day, and what occurred, and the circumstances connected with it?—The 12th Bhadrapud was a sacred day, and I always every year have been in the habit of going on that day to Doodeshwur river; but that day I could not go on account of being obliged to attend Galla Bhanjee.

[Prisoner having no more questions to ask, witness retires.

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

Himutram Hergovind, aged 25 years; caste, Wania; occupation, Usurer; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad; deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

No. 16.

Is acquainted with Heeralall, the prisoner at the bar; he was lately foujdar of the city, and deponent's house is near his in the same "mella."

Question by Prisoner.] Did you come to see Gella Bhunjee at the time he was suffering under hydrophobia?—*Answer.* Yes; one day, about an hour after daylight, some person came to call Heeralall (prisoner) to Gella's house, as he was then ill of hydrophobia, and I went with him.

How long did you remain there?—Till 12 o'clock.

By the Court.] What acquaintance had you with the deceased, Gella?—I was an acquaintance of his; we were not intimate, but of the same caste.

Such being the case, how did you happen to remain so long with him?—I remained because the foujdar with whom I went was there.

Did you return with the foujdar?—No, I returned alone; I was hungry at 12 o'clock, and went home.

How did you go, and who went with you?—We went on foot; the distance may be half a coss between the two houses.

Who were there?—There were two hukeems, and other persons whose names I don't recollect.

When did Gella die?—He died Bhadrapud Vud 13th.

How did you remember the day, &c.?—From its being a particular day (Shrad Ouksh).

On what day did you go to see him?—The day before he died.

[Prisoner having no more questions to ask, witness retires.

No. 17.

Oojumlall Hukumchund, aged 38 years; caste, Wanea; occupation, Gumashta; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad; deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

Knows the prisoner at the bar, Heeralall; they are neighbours, living in the same pole; not more than acquaintances.

Question by the Prisoner.] Did you come to see Gella Bhanjee, when he was attacked with hydrophobia?—*Answer.* Yes, last year in Bhadrapud Vud; the date I don't recollect; I went down to see him at about eight o'clock.

How long did you remain, and did you see me there?—Till two o'clock; I saw Heeralal there, and he came back to his house at the same time I did.

Did you know the deceased well?—I was not intimate with the deceased, Gella; I went to his house because he was brother-in-law to Heeralall, and my master is related to Heeralall.

Who were at Ghella's house when you went there?—The foujdar, and tallapunk, and some hukeems.

[Prisoner having no more questions to ask, witness retires.

No. 18.

Tulluckchund Himutram, aged 62 years; caste, Wania; occupation, Goomasta; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad; deposes, as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

Knows the prisoner; they live in the same pole; deponent's master, Tamul Beehur, is intimate with Heeralall, and therefore he knows him.

Question by the Prisoner.] Did you come and see Gella Bhanjee at the time he was under hydrophobia; relate the circumstances?—*Answer.* Yes, in Badrapud Vud; I do not remember the date; I was sitting on my "ottla," when I heard that the deceased had been attacked with hydrophobia, and that the foujdar had gone there; I went there also immediately.

How long did you remain there, and did you see me there?—Till about two o'clock; I saw Heeralall there; he remained there as long as I did.

By the Court.] When did Gella die?—He died next day, in the evening.

What induced you to go to his house, and to remain so long?—Because the foujdar was brother-in-law of the deceased, and is also a relation of my master, and as we live in the same pole, I went. I was in friendship also with Gella; I remained to see if the deceased would become easier.

How far was Gella's house from the foujdar?—By the carriage road more than a quarter a coss, by the foot road somewhat less.

How do you remember all these circumstances?—It was a particular season of the year, and I remember the day.

[Prisoner having no more questions to ask, witness retires.

The prisoner is asked what more he has to say in his defence.

No. 19.

He presents a very long paper in his defence, which he wishes to be read and recorded, which is accordingly done.

In it, he urges, that on the day he is represented by the prosecutor to have taken the bribe of 50 rupees from him, he was in the house of his brother-in-law Bhanjee, who was then

then dying from hydrophobia; that he had proved this from the evidence, and that the exact time of the death of the deceased would be ascertained on reference to the register of deaths and births kept by the magistrate, &c.

The Court having called for the present acting foujdar, Soonyram Gungalam, and the register book,

The Court finds in the latter an entry under date 26th September 1848, corresponding with Bradrapud Vud 14, of the death of Gella Bhanjee, from hydrophobia.

Soorujram Gungarum, aged 53 years; caste, Nagur, acting Foujdar of Ahmedabad; deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished: No. 20.

Deaths and births; that these entries are made as they occur, till the office is closed; those that occur after are entered next day; and that it appears from the entry that Gella had died the night before; namely, on the 25th September 1848.

[Prisoner having no questions to ask, witness retires.

Recorded Extract from Register. No. 21.

The case is here closed, and the Court proceeds to record its Finding.

The prisoner is charged with having taken a bribe of 50 rupees from Lalloo Rajaram on the 12th Bhadrapud Vud, and pleads "Not guilty."

The prosecutor's story is, that he had been taken upon suspicion of having received stolen property, and that a pair of bangles of his were seized; that he represented that the bangles were his own, but that no attention was paid to him, and that he promised to give 50 rupees to the foujdar, through one Kawal, to obtain his release; and that some 11 days after he paid the money to the foujdar, and that one Munsook accompanied him at the time he went to pay the money, which he did at the "della" which he (foujdar) occasionally inhabits. At about 10 or 11 o'clock on the 12th Bhadrapud Vud, the same day, he got it from Nalchund, his father's banker, by order of his father; all of which transactions appear duly entered in his accounts.

The prisoner pleads an "alibi," and produces five witnesses to support his assertion.

The Court, as will be seen by the depositions, has taken much trouble to arrive at the truth in this case, and viewing the evidence on both sides, is of opinion that the charge is false.

It does not appear necessary, therefore, to go fully into the case, but merely to notice a few leading points.

The prosecutor says that he went to the cutcherry where the fowjdar was at three o'clock; that he declared the articles seized were his property, and named two witnesses to prove this; that the fowjdar immediately sent for these witnesses; yet the prosecutor does not await their examination, but offers a bribe to get away, which he says was accepted through one "Kowol," and that he was released on giving security in the amount of 200 rupees.

The prisoner rightly asks what difficulty would there have been in his applying to him after the arrival of his witnesses, and that he might have done so when brought up to furnish security if he had no other opportunity; and it appears certainly to the Court that there was no occasion for the bribe being offered; the prosecutor knows that the property he was accused of stealing was his own, and that his witnesses could prove it, yet he offers a bribe to get away without awaiting their examination.

The offer was made the same day he was released, namely, 13 September 1848, and he paid the bribe on the 25th, having, by consent of his father, obtained the money from their banker.

The Court is satisfied of the correctness of the entries both in Najaram's books and in the banker's; the items are put down distinctly on the 12th Bhadrapud Vud, but there is no direct evidence of the payment to the fowjdar, except the prosecutor's own assertions. The Court is of opinion that the prosecutor got the money, but appropriated it to himself; for in no way could it be more distinctly proved that he did not pay it to the prisoner on the day and at the place he asserts he did, than by the fact which the prisoner has established, that he had never been at that place during that day.

It is shown that on that day the prisoner's brother-in-law was taken ill of hydrophobia, and died next day, and that the prisoner attended him from the time he was called on the Sunday morning till 3 o'clock, p.m.; five witnesses depose to this, and there is no doubt or occasion for disbelieving them; it is but natural that the prisoner would so have done. The prisoner states that on the morning he went to the cutcherry for a short time to report the matter, and it is shown from the register of births and deaths that the prisoner's brother-in-law died the same day.

The Court does not consider it necessary to add more, and acquits the prisoner of the charge, but he is not discharged, as there is another case against him at present before the Court.

[Adjourned.

(signed) *A. Spens*, Session Judge.

(True extracts.)

(signed) A. Spens, Session Judge.

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings held before *Archibald Spens*, Esq., Session Judge of the Zillah of Ahmedabad and its Dependencies.

Friday, 27 July 1849.

THE Shastree is present, the Cazee absent, according to custom. The Court resumes its sittings, and proceeds with the trial of Case No. 78 of 1849.

Read and recorded, the papers and proceedings received from the Magistrate of Ahmedabad, Mr. Bettington, in the case of the following prisoner, who is placed at the bar.

Heeralall Gordhundass, aged 39 years; caste, Wania; occupation, holding lately the situation of Police Umildar (Fowjdar) of the City of Ahmedabad, and an Inhabitant of Ahmedabad.

Charged with bribery, in having on and between 12 Shood Magsur to Chytur Vud Amas, Sumut 1904, corresponding with 19th December 1847 to 3d May 1848, as police umildar (fowjdar) of the city of Ahmedabad, abused the authority vested in him, and received as a bribe from Muneedhur Gopaljee and Oopindra Gopaljee, khutrees, the sum of 1,400 rupees in ready cash and a gold neck ornament valued at 300 rupees, making a total of 1,700 rupees, under the pretence of assisting the said Muneedhur and Oopindra Gopaljee in the settlement of their affairs.

The prisoner pleads "Not guilty."

The prosecution commences.

No. 1. Read and recorded, vakulutnamah, entered in the name of Beehur Dhunjee.

No. 2. *Muneedhur Gopaljee*, aged 30 years; caste, Katree; occupation, Manufacturer of Kinkubs, &c. Inhabitant of Ahmedabad; deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

Deponent had a quarrel with his cousin, Balmoo Chund, and others, the sons of his uncle, Jumnadass, and with Lalloo Jey Kissindass, the son of another uncle, regarding the estate of their grandfather, Nagur Bhugent. This quarrel had been going on since the death of deponent's father in Summut 1900; and in the month Margsur, last year, his brother, Oopindra, having heard that their opponents had gone to complain to the foujdar in the matter, sent their nephews, Nugindass and Munsook, to the foujdar, on the same account; when they came back, they said that the foujdar had threatened them, and said that he would make them deliver up the property in dispute, which was at that time in their (deponent and his brother's) possession, but that if they gave him 1,000 rupees, it should remain with them. Deponent then agreed to give 900 rupees; at this time deponent was in Baroda, but heard from his brother and others what had taken place, and that his brother Oopindra had taken up 900 rupees in his name, and had sent Nugindass to get the money from Wurrybhookun Damoodur; that he and Humsook Hergovind and Nuginlall Ootumram took the money to the foujdar's house, and gave it to him; the above deponent heard, by letter from his brother, and a few days after he came himself to Ahmedabad.

Besides the above, one day in the month Falgoon, all his relations rose up against him, on the same account, at which time deponent met one Pranshunkur Hurreeram, a Brahmin, a shrewd man, whom people employ when in such difficulties; deponent asked his advice; he said that money would be required; deponent said that he would borrow money and give it. Deponent had told Pranshunkur Hurreeram that his brother had already given 900 rupees, and Pranshunkur said that it would be better not to take up the money from a third person, but to pledge something, and out of the money raised, pay some money to the foujdar and purchase a stamp paper, to enter a civil suit, if necessary. Deponent then agreed to give two boxes containing silk, valued at about 1,200 rupees, and Pranshunkur sent a man of his, named Kesresing, to his house, where the two boxes were put into Pranshunkur Hurreeram's cart, and taken to his house. The following day deponent went to Pranshunkur's house, who told deponent that he had pledged the silk with Bhuggoobhaee Premchund, and obtained 750 rupees, 500 of which he had given to the foujdar, and had kept rupees 250 to purchase a stamp, and that if required, more money would be advanced on the same property. Some two or three days after, deponent went to the foujdar's house with Pranshunkur and Oopindra, and Nuginlall and Munsook, and he (the foujdar) then acknowledged the receipt of the above 500 rupees. Deponent's brother and Pranshunkur went inside, and the foujdar told this to them; deponent also heard as he was outside, and Munsook and Nuginlall were with him; deponent remained outside at the suggestion of Pransunker. A few days after this occurred, the foujdar came to deponent's house, and said that the quarrel had arisen to a great height, and demanded more money, otherwise that he would go away and leave the matter as it was. Deponent represented that he had already paid much money, and had no more; then the foujdar said, "Give something," and deponent gave him a gold necklace he was then wearing; the foujdar asked for it, and therefore he gave it; he feared losing his case, and was moreover oppressed and afraid, and therefore took off the necklace and gave it at this time; many people were present, among them, Oopindra and Nuginlall, and Munsook and Umuchund, and Purvoojee Bugwow; the necklace was worth 300 rupees; the foujdar then went away, and deponent remained in possession of his property. An entry of the sum 300 rupees is made in the books of the firm, and it will be found entered also in the accounts of Wurajbaokur Damodur; the entry of the 900 rupees in deponent's books is dated Marzsur Shood 12th. The prisoner before the Court is Heeralall, the same person who was foujdar at the time. There is no entry regarding

garding the two boxes of silk in deponent's books; an entry regarding them will appear in the books of Bhuggoobhae Premchund. Deponent explains, that in the above statement, where he has used the word "Hum," or I, or me (translated by the Court, "deponent"), that he meant himself and his brother Oopindra, who he considered as one in the matter; he was at Baroda at the time; the same applies to his statement made before the magistrate; he is unused to appear before a court, and did not know better.

Question by the Prisoner.] When did your quarrel come into the kutcherry?—*Answer.* In the month of Falgoon, last year.

Did you come yourself to complain?—Yes, I went with my brother.

Did I take you before Dr. Sproule, assistant magistrate, about the family quarrel?—Did you not take me before Dr. Sproule.

Were any of your people brought before me at the time?—I do not recollect.

Did I not tell you and your relation to settle the dispute among yourselves, or to go into the civil court; and were not some depositions taken in your house, and security taken from some of you?—I remember giving a deposition, but I do not recollect anything done about it.

At the time you say you gave me the necklace, was not Gundadass Vakeel, and Pransunker, and Gungaram Hurrachund present?—I do not recollect.

Were any carcoons and peons present?—Yes, both were present; the carcoons were engaged in writing.

How did your dispute end in your office?—Seeing no chance of getting justice, and having spent much money, I came to an understanding with my opponents.

Did you lay a plaint in the Adawlut?—Yes.

Was it before or after your intercourse with me?—I do not recollect.

How was your case decided in Court?—The petition was withdrawn.

How many of your family were brought up for assault?—I don't recollect.

If you paid bribes and got no advantage, why did you not complain to the Judicial Commissioner, or Judge, or Magistrate?—Because, if I had, I could not have afterwards remained in the country.

How does it happen that you have since brought a complaint?—Because the magistrate sent for me, and I told everything to him, as I have stated before.

[Prisoner having no more questions to ask, witness retires.

No. 3.

Read and recorded extract from the account-books of the firm of Nageur Bhugat, for Sumnut 1904 (A.D. 1848).

"Nine hundred rupees, Shah Heeralal Gordhundass, foujdar, paid Margsur Shood, 12th Sunday.

"Nine hundred Bombay currency, ready cash, charged to my house."

The account-book produced in Court, and compared with the above extract.

No. 4.

Oopindra Gopaljee, aged 32 years; caste, Khatree; occupation, Manufacturer of Kinkobs, &c.; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad; deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

Is elder brother of last witness, Muneedhur; they are partners, and live together; deponent does not mix much with the world, and therefore when the magistrate called them, his brother went. In the month of Magsur last they had a great family quarrel; deponent heard that his opponents had complained to the foujdar; deponent sent Nuginlall and Munsook in consequence to the foujdar, to endeavour to make some arrangements; on their return they said that the foujdar has threatened them, and told them that they should not remain in possession of the property of their grandfather, Nagur Bhugut, but if they gave him 1,000 rupees it would alter the case. Deponent agreed to pay 900 rupees; and a day or two after sent Nuginlall to get the money from a banker, named Wurujbhookun Damoodhur which he did; and he, deponent and Munsook, went together at about 8 or 9 o'clock at night, to the foujdar's house, which is above the "della" (stable); the foujdar was there, and two or three persons with him; he beckoned them to go away; he also told deponent to make Munsook and Nuginlall remain at a distance; they therefore remained standing on the stairs, and deponent counted out and gave the 900 rupees to the foujdar; Munsook and Nuginlall were within sight; after this, deponent went home, and he wrote the transaction in his account-book, also crediting the amount to Wurujbookundass. After this, in the month Falgoon, again heard of his cousins' rising up against him, and deponent applied to one Pransunker, a clever man; the deponent's brother, Muneedhur, and Nuginlall and Munsook went to consult him; they came back saying that the foujdar wanted something more, and that the money was required for stamp-paper; they then agreed to give two boxes of silk, and the same evening Kisresing came to his house with a cart and took them away; the two boxes contained silk worth about 1,000 rupees. A few days after this, Muneedhur, and Nuginlall and Munsook went again to Pransunker, who said that it would be necessary to give the foujdar 500 rupees, and 250 rupees would be required for a stamp, and that therefore he had taken up that amount on the security of the silk, and had written out their petition on the stamped paper; he then took deponent and Muneedhur, and Nuginlall and Munsook to the foujdar, and introduced deponent alone to the foujdar, the others remaining outside; deponent explaining their case to the foujdar, and Pransunker begged him to make some arrangements for their remaining in possession of their property; and he asked the question of the foujdar whether he had received the 500 rupees, and he answered, yes, that he had received it. Again, five or six days after this, their opponents came

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

to their house, the foujdar also came there, having been called there by Nuginlall, and took down some depositions. At this time the foujdar threatened deponent, and said that the property would go out of his possession; that he would go away and leave matters as they were, unless something was given him. They taking into consideration that if the foujdar acted so, their party would be sufferers, Muneedhur took off a gold necklace he was then wearing, and gave it to him (foujdar); after this they were left in possession of the house and property, and their opponents were sent away. The prisoner before the Court is the same foujdar.

Question by Prisoner.] When did you first complain before me?—*Answer.* In the month Falgoon last year.

Did I come to your house and take security from you and others regarding your family?—I don't recollect exactly what took place, but security was taken from me.

What arrangement did I make?—I kept possession of the shop, which was the most important part of the business; the house was in our possession, and our uncle's wife also lived in it.

Whether did you enter a civil suit, or apply to me first?—I made the petition in th civil suit by your advice.

How did the suit terminate?—In a razeenamah.

How did the proceedings before terminate?—Also by a razeenamah.

When you found that you obtained no advantage from giving bribes, how was it you did not complain to the Judicial Commissioner, or Session Judge, or others?—From fear of the consequences.

Did you give the bribe with a view to obtaining benefit, or from fear?—From both.

Why have you now complained?—My brother knows; the sirkar called him and he went.

At the time of the disturbance before your house, were Gungadass Vakul, Goolab Chund Amrootlal there?—A great crowd had assembled; I therefore cannot say who were there.

Were your opponents there?—Yes; they were outside.

Were there carcoons and peons?—I was "Gabra," and did not notice what persons were there.

[Prisoner having no questions to ask, witness retires.

No. 5.

Nugindass Ootumram, aged 24 years; caste, Khatree; occupation, Manufacturer of Kincob; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad; deposes on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

Is nephew of Muneedhur, deponent's mother being his sister. Here was a dispute between Muneedhur and Oopindra, on the one side, and Balmoocund and others, regarding their property; deponent had no connexion with the quarrel; last year in the month Margsur, deponent heard that the opponents of his uncle had made a disturbance and had given a sum of money, 625 rupees, to the foujdar; at this time Muneedhur was in Baroda; deponent therefore informed Oopindra, who desired deponent and his cousin, Munsook, to go to the foujdar and make some arrangement to secure their rights; they went to the foujdar, who was then in the house above the "della," and asked him if he would assist their uncle, and not oppose him; he answered, their opponents had agreed to pay him 625 rupees, and that if deponent's uncle would give more he should remain undisturbed; he then said he would take 1,000 rupees. Deponent then agreed for 900 rupees, on condition that his uncle should not be disturbed, but remain in possession of his property; deponent and Munsook then went home, and told their uncle Oopindra what they had done, and he agreed to give the money two or three days after. Oopindra sent deponent to get the 900 rupees (Company's), and the same night deponent and Oopindra and Munsook went at about 8 o'clock to the foujdar's house at the "della." Deponent carried the money; the foujdar was in the room or hall above the "della" (stable); two men were seated with him, who retired on deponent's going in; deponent gave the bag of rupees into the hands of his uncle Oopindra, and the foujdar desired deponent and Munsook to go outside; they went outside the room and remained standing on the stairs, Oopindra then counted out the 900 rupees to the foujdar; deponent and Munsook saw this from where they were standing. Oopindra afterwards came out, and they returned home.

About three months after this, in the month Falgoon, all the opponents of deponent's uncle in the family dispute came and made a disturbance before the house, and hearing that they had come there at the instigation of the foujdar, deponent and his uncle Muneedhur, who had just returned from Baroda, went to consult Pransunker, who was well acquainted with all their affairs, and begged him to make some arrangements to keep the property in their possession. Pransunker said that without money nothing could be done; they answered that they would get money from a banker; Pransunker answered that having already given 900 rupees in that manner, it was known to the whole city, and it would be better to bring some goods; they then agreed to give two boxes of silk, and having returned, they told this to Oopindar, and two days after Kessresing brought a cart to the house, and deponent's uncle made over to him the two boxes containing the silk. Kessresing is a friend of Pransunker and had been sent by him. The following day deponent went to Pransunker's house, who said that he had pledged the silk in the house of Bhuggoo Bhaee Premchund, and would get the money; that 500 rupees was wanted for the foujdar, and 250 rupees for a stamp; a day or two after Pransunker showed the stamped paper, he had purchased in value 250 rupees to the foujdar, and desired them to go and obtain his acknowledgment,

ledgment. Deponent and Muneedhur, and Oopindra and Munsook, went with Pransunkur in the evening at 8 o'clock to the foujdar to his "della;" he was sitting in the yard below; Pransunker went with Oopindra to the foujdar, and the foujdar and the other remained at the door; the foujdar told Oopindra that he had received the 500 rupees, and Oopindra said he hoped that the foujdar would not send any more sepoys to him, and that he would allow him to remain in undisturbed possession of his property, to which the foujdar assented. Deponent and those with him were at this time within hearing; they then returned home, and five or six days after all the opposite party in the quarrel came to make a disturbance at the house and shop. At about 10 o'clock deponent went at once to inform the foujdar, who took deponent to Dr. Sproule, the assistant magistrate, where also the opposite party came; the assistant magistrate gave the order that the property was to remain in possession of the parties who then held it, and that security should be taken from both parties to keep the peace; the foujdar and all then came to the house of deponent's uncle, where the opposing party had also come. The foujdar then took some depositions and opened the room, which the opposing party had caused to be locked up, and give it in possession of deponent's uncle, and bound over nine or ten persons in securities to keep the peace. The foujdar recommended both parties to settle their dispute by a punchayet, but the opposite party would not agree; the foujdar then said that he would go away and leave matters as they were, and threatened to give possession to the opposite party unless something more was given, in which case he would place a guard of sepoys, and keep them in possession. The foujdar addressed this to Muneedhur, who replied that he had no money, but had a gold necklace, which he gave to the foujdar; it was in five rows and was worth 300 rupees; the foujdar was seated in the yard, "chowk;" most of the other people were outside; deponent and Munsook, and Purvoojee and Umuchund were inside. Purvoojee and Umuchund are in the employment of deponent's uncle. The foujdar then placed two sepoys and went away, and the opposing party remained sitting on the "oatla" (seat before the house), and in the evening he again entered the house, and according to instructions received from the foujdar that if they made any more disturbance the police sepoy should be called. Deponent went to the chowkee and brought some sepoys, and the disturbers were sent away; at length, after all this, the disputes were settled by a razeenama. The prisoner before the Court is the same foujdar; the foujdar demanded the gold necklace, and therefore it was given to him.

Question by Prisoner.] At different times you say you came to me at the "della;" were there not sepoys there?—*Answer.* Yes.

Did you live with your uncle Muneedhur and Ooopindra?—Yes.

When was the complaint brought before me?—In the month of Falgoon.

At the time you came with Pransunker and Oopindra, why did you, as you appear to be acquainted with all the particulars of the case, remain outside?—Because Pransunker said there was no need for my going in.

Does your uncle keep regular books?—He keeps account-book of the firm; I cannot say whether he keeps private accounts.

At the time you say Muneedhur gave the necklace, was Gungadass and Pransunker, &c. present?—There were many persons collected, and I do not recollect who came there. Gungadass was there at first; I did not see him after.

Were these men shown any account of the property under dispute, which was locked up in a room of the house?—I cannot say.

Why was a complaint brought into the Adawlut?—A suit was brought to prevent Balmoocund, Jemadars, and others, from interfering.

Was Balmoocund among the disturbers?—I don't know.

Prisoner having no more questions to ask, witness retires.

Owing to the lateness of the hour, the Court adjourns.

(signed) *A. Spens*, Session Judge.

Saturday, 28 July 1849.

The law officers are present.

The Court resumes its sittings, and case No. 78 of 1849, postponed on the 27th instant, is proceeded with.

The prisoner, *Heeralall Gordhundass*, is placed at the bar.

Evidence for the prosecution continued.

Munsook Hurgovind, aged 24 years; caste, Kutree; occupation, Weaver of Kurkhob; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad; deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished: No. 6.

The prosecutor Muneedhur and Oopindra are deponent's maternal uncles. In the month Margsur last year, there was a family quarrel about some property between Balmoocund and others on the one side, and deponent's uncle, the latter having heard that the other party had applied to the foujdar. Deponent and Nugindass were sent by Oopindra to the foujdar. They asked for the foujdar's protection, and he said that he did not think that deponent's uncles would be allowed to remain in possession of their property, and thus

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

threatened them, till at length they agreed to pay 900 rupees, the foujdar having demanded 1,000 rupees; they sent back Oopindra, who agreed to what had been done, and the second or third day following, Oopindra desired Nugindass to go and get the 900 rupees from Wurujbhookun Damodur, which he did; and in the evening, about eight o'clock, deponent and Nugindass and Oopindra took the money in a bag to the foujdar's. Nugindass carried the bag; they went to the dwelling above the "dhella," and found the foujdar seated with two or three men, who retired. Nugindass made over the bag to Oopindra, and the foujdar desired deponent and Nugindass to go out, and they remained on the steps. Oopindra counted out the money to the foujdar; deponent and Nugindass saw this. They then returned home.

Corroborates the statement made by Muneedhur and Oopindra regarding the two boxes of silk, and the payment of the 500 rupees, raised by pledging it with Bhuggoobhaee Premchund.

Corroborates, also, the statement made by Muneedhur and confirmed by the other witnesses, regarding the delivery of the gold necklace.

Deposes, further, that he had heard that Balmoocund and that party, had given 625 rupees. Cannot say what particular person told him this; it was commonly rumoured, and also that Balmoocund had said that he had arranged everything with the foujdar.

Question by Prisoner.] At the time you say the sum of 900 and 500 rupees were paid to me, had any complaint been brought before me as foujdar?—*Answer.* No complaint had been laid, but there had been a family quarrel.

Do you know who the two men were, who you say you saw with me when you brought the 900 rupees?—No, I did not; it was night, and I did not observe them.

Were there any sepoys on guard?—Yes; but they made no objection to our entering.

Do your uncles keep accounts, and what is their trade?—Yes, they do; by trade they are manufacturers of kinkhab.

Why did Muneedhur go to Baroda?—He goes there to sell kinkob.

Did your uncle obtain any benefit in consequence of having paid 1,400 rupees?—Matters remained as they were, and no advantage was obtained.

Did you tender complaint on this account to the magistrate?—I do not know.

Did your uncle make a petition in the Adawlut?—Yes.

On what account?—I cannot say exactly on what account; it may have been on account of the family dispute.

Were the parties opposed to your uncles present at the time the crowd came before their house?—Yes, and many people besides.

How did the case in the Adawlut terminate?—In a razeenamah.

Did your uncle complain to the magistrate, session judge, or judicial commissioner, when they obtained no advantage, after having paid so much for it?—I never heard that they did so.

[Prisoner having no more questions to ask, witness retires.

No. 7. *Umeerchund Nagardass*, aged 35 years caste, Coonbee; occupation, a Weaver of "Kinkob;" Inhabitant of Ahmedabad; deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

Deponent is acquainted with Munudhur and Oopindra; has dealings with them; disposes of the kinkhob for them, &c. Remembers the occasion of the foujdar coming to their house one day, when there was a disturbance there; it happened 10 or 11 months ago; deponent went there to purchase gold-thread. The foujdar and Muneedhur were standing in the court-yard. Munsook and Nugindass and Purvoodass were there, and Oopindra. Deponent saw Muneedhur giving a gold necklace into the foujdar's hand, at which time observing deponent, he asked why he had come there. Deponent answered that he had come to purchase gold thread. He then ordered deponent to depart, and he accordingly went home. The necklace, he supposes, was given on account of the family quarrel, which was under investigation before the foujdar.

Question by Prisoner.] How long have you been in the habit of going to their house, and were you in their pay?—*Answer.* I have been going to their house these 15 years, and for the last two months have received no pay from them.

Why did you want gold-thread?—For weaving into cloth.

[Prisoner having no more questions to ask, witness retires.

No. 8. *Purvoodass Bhugwandass*, aged 58 years; caste, Khatree; occupation, Weaver; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad; deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

Is goomashta in the service of Muneedhur and Oopindra, in the kinkabe trade.

Corroborates the statement made by Umeerchund Nagurdass regarding the delivery of the gold necklace. Was present at the time, having come down from his work when the disturbance took place.

Question by Prisoner.] How long have you been gomashta?—*Answer.* About 20 years.

Where did you meet Umeechund?—He came from without.

[Prisoner having no more questions to ask, witness retires.

Treekundass

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

Treekundass Lakmeedas, aged 38 years; caste, Wanee; occupation, Goomashta; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

No. 9.

Is goomashta in the firm of Wurujhookun Damoodur; there is an account entered in his master's books in the name of Gopaldass Nagurdass, deceased, whose business is now carried on by his sons, Muneedhur and Oopindra and Chemunlal. In page 108 there is an entry of 900 rupees Bombay, equal to *Rs.* 877. 8. sicca currency, on their account, which money was taken by Nugindass, on the 12th Margshur Shood, Sumvut 1904, corresponding with 19th November 1848. Deponent ordered the money to be given to him, but does not know on what account it was required. No written order was brought. Transactions to this amount have before taken place.

[Prisoner having no questions to ask, witness retires.

No. 10.

Read and recorded the following extract from the account-books of Wurujbhookun Damodur, for the year Sumvut 1904:

"*Rs.* 877. 8. sicca currency, on account of Gopaldass Nagurdass, dated Margur Shood 12, Sunday, in favour of Nugindass, who took it, equal to 900 rupees Bombay currency, at the rate of 97. 8."—Page 108, in the ready cash book.

Original produced in court, and compared with the above.

No. 11.

Pransunker Hurreeram, aged 62 years; caste, Nagur; of no occupation at present; formerly was a Shroff; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

Is acquainted with Muneedhur and Oopindra. Knows of the dispute in their family. He and others were members of the punchayet, which arranged the matter. The parties had previously complained to the magistrate, in a case of assault, and also had entered a suit in the Adawlut. Does not know whether they complained in any other quarter. In the month of Mah or Falgoon last year, Muneedhur and Oopindra came to him to consult him. Deponent recommended them to go to the Adawlut; there was a great difference afterwards between them, and they complained in the Adawlut. Deponent does not recollect whether he obtained the stamped paper for them. Muneedhur one day said that the foujdar was coming to his house regarding the dispute, and that, as security might be required, he begged deponent to come there, which he did; the foujdar shortly after came there; a thousand people were assembled there; among them Gungadass; he did not come with deponent, but deponent mentioned his name because he was one of the punchayet who were named to settle the dispute. The foujdar took security from both parties; did not apply to them till about a month; after this no boxes of silk were brought to his house by Kesresing from the house of Muneedhur. Deponent recommended Muneedhur to complain in the Adawlut about the family dispute; Muneedhur said money would be required, about 1,000 rupees, and asked deponent to obtain it for him; deponent said money was scarce, and that it would be better if some goods were pledged; Muneedhur said he had two boxes of silk, containing about 39 bundles; deponent said to Kesresing to raise the money on the security of the silk; Kesresing got the money, about 800 or 900 rupees, from a shroff named Bhuggoobhaee; this Kesresing and Muneedhur both told deponent; from that amount a paper of the value of 250 rupees was purchased; deponent does not know what became of the rest of the money; did not at any time go to the foujdar regarding this family dispute; Muneedhur told deponent that he had, by mistake, told the magistrate that he had paid the foujdar 500 rupees through him; deponent told him that he had said what was false, but that he, deponent, had informed the magistrate of the truth; all the party have since taken his name, but what deponent has now stated is the truth; never recommended the complainants to bribe the foujdar; never went with them to the foujdar's house at any time, and did not know that they had complained to him.

Question by the Prisoner.] Were you security on behalf of the complainants?—*Answer.* Yes, on behalf of one of them; I forget which.

Did you leave the house at the time of the disturbance before or after me?—I left the place after you did.

[Prisoner having no more questions to ask, witness retires.

No. 12.

Kesresing Jetha, aged 48 years; caste, Wania; occupation, Trader; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

Is acquainted with the complainants, Muneedhur and Oopindra Gopaljee. Last year, in the month of Falgoon, deponent was sitting in front of Pran Sunker's house, he having called him there; Muneedhur and Oopindra and others were seated there; Pran Sunker said that these people wanted to raise money on some silk; deponent agreed, and Muneedhur told deponent to come next day and he would deliver the silk to him; the next day deponent went for the silk; Muneedhur pointed out two boxes; the silk was taken out and made into two bundles; Muneedhur told deponent to go to his metta, and that he would bring the silk there, which he did, and Muneedhur brought the silk there on two coolies; he said the silk was worth 1,000 rupees, and that he expected to get 800 or 900 rupees on it; after this time deponent got 350 rupees, which he offered to Muneedhur, saying that he would

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

get the remainder in two or three days, but Muneedhur would not receive it, saying that he would take all at once; two or three days after, deponent got 450 rupees more, total 800 rupees, and gave it to Chemunlal, a brother of the complainant, on his coming to ask for it; Chemunlal at this time said that he had to purchase stamped paper, and had also to pay the foujdar in the matter of the family dispute; deponent did not tell Pran Sunker what had taken place; deponent did not take the silk away in a cart from Muneedhur's house; deponent did not give any of the money raised on the silk to Pran Sunker.

Question by Prisoner.] Were you at the house of complainants at the time of the disturbance, when the foujdar came there?—*Answer.* Yes I was.

Why did you go there?—Number of people had assembled before the magistrate, Dr. Sproule, and were going thence to the house, and I went with them.

Where you security for anybody at the time?—Yes; for one of the complaints.

Where was I sitting at the time?—The foujdar was sitting on the ottla outside the house.

By the Court.] How long did you remain there?—From about 8 o'clock till 12 o'clock.

Did the foujdar remain seated there all the time?—Yes; he once went away up-stairs to look at the chopra and remained absent about a gurree.

[Prisoner having no more questions to ask, witness retires.

No. 13. *Bhuggoobhaee Premchund*, aged 30 years; caste, Wania; occupation, Shroff; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

Does not know Muneedhur and Oopindra; knows Kesresing; in Falgoon last year he (Kesresing) deposited two boxes of silk at his house, and got 800 rupees, which he entered in deponent's books, at page 101, in Kesresing's name; he got 350 rupees on the 7th, and 450 rupees on the 9th Falgoon Wud; deponent does not know on what account he wanted the money.

[Prisoner having no questions to ask, witness retires.

No. 14. Read and recorded extract from the account-books of Bhuggoobhae Premchund.

"To Kesrising Jetha,
800 rupees from day-book, page 225; month Falgoon.
350 rupees, 7th Vud (Sunday); 450 rupees, 9th Vud (Tuesday.)"

No. 15. *Chemunlall Gopaljee*, aged 33 years; caste, Khatree; occupation, dealer in Kinkob; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation:

Is brother of Muneedhur and Oopindra; Muneedhur told him that Kesresing had taken away two boxes of silk; Kesresing never gave a rupee to deponent of the money he had raised by pledging them to Bhuggoobhae. Deponent does not know what he did with it; his brother, Muneedhur, said that 500 rupees of it had been given to Pranshunker to give to the foujdar.

[Prisoner having no questions to ask, witness retires.

It having been stated on these proceedings that the opponent of the prosecutors in this case had also offered a bribe of 625 rupees to the foujdar, and that in consequence of this Oopindra and others had gone to the foujdar, the Court considered it necessary to inquire into this point, and having communicated with the magistrate, the following witness was forwarded.

No. 16. *Gunsham Vishnoodass*, aged 38 years; caste, Khatree; occupation, a Weaver of Kinkob; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

The complainants, Muneedhur and Oopindra, are his cousins; they had a family quarrel about division of property; deponent, Balmoocund, and Kissundass against the complainants; the quarrel commenced in Margsur or Posh last year, and continued till Falgoon or Chytru; deponent and his brother complained to the foujdar. One day in Margsur or Posh, Gella Bhanjee, a brother-in-law of the foujdar, came to deponent's house; deponent told him of the dispute, and asked him to make some arrangement with the foujdar, and agreed to give 625 rupees; he gave 125 rupees in gold and 500 rupees in money; the money was in the house; after this, in Chytur month, about four months, Gella gave back the money, saying he could do nothing, for that he and the foujdar had quarrelled; he got the money in the same state he gave it. Gella has since died. Nothing was done by the foujdar, but the parties have since agreed and passed a razeenamah; nobody was present when the money was paid, or when returned; does not know whether the foujdar was ever aware that he had paid Gella the money.

[Prisoner having no questions to ask, witness retires.

The prisoner begs for time to prepare his defence.

He is informed that he will be allowed till Monday, and that if he wishes to call any witnesses he must name them now, that otherwise no further delay will be admitted on that account.

The

The prisoner names the following persons, who he wishes to be called in his defence: Goolabchund Hurrukchund, Jumnadass Bechur, Buggoo Munchachund, Umbullal Assaram, who, he says, were present when he went to the house of the complainant at the time he is said to have received the necklace. Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedebad.

Summonses are accordingly issued, and the Court adjourned.

(signed) *A. Spens*, Session Judge.

Monday, 30 July 1849.

The Court proceeds with the trial of case No. 78 of 1849, postponed on the 28th instant.

The prisoner, Heeralall Gordhundass is placed at the bar.

Evidence for the prosecusion continued.

Before proceeding to take the prisoner's defence, the Court considers it advisable to record the opinion of Hemabhaee Wukutchund, and Oomabhaee Roopchund, and other leading sowcars of this city, on the correctness of the different chopdass and account-books which have been recorded in the case.

Recorded, to the effect that the books of Wurujhookun Damodhur and Bhuggoobhee Premchund are kept according to the manner in which sowcar books are usually kept, and that there are many subsequent entries in these books. That with regard to the chopras of the firm of Nagur Bhugut, produced by Muneedhur, in which the sum of 900 rupees is entered, it appears to be according to the manner in which such people keep their accounts, but the balances are not made up regularly, and it is not kept as a sowcar would keep it. No. 18

Read and recorded the Nazir's report, to the effect that the witnesses Goolabchund Hurruckchund and Buggoo Munchachund are present. That the witness, Umrutlall Assaram is not to be found, and that Jumnadass Bechur is too ill to attend.

The case for the prosecution is here closed, and the prisoner is called upon for his defence.

Read and recorded statement by the prisoner, Heeralall Gordhundass, before the magistrate, on the 20 July 1849, denying the charge and all knowledge of the matter. No. 19.

Admitted by the prisoner.

Goolabchund Hurrukchund, aged 45 years; caste, Waniah; occupation, Goomashta; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished: No. 20.

Is goomashta to Kooshall Lukhmeechund. Is acquainted with the prisoner; has known him 15 or 20 years.

Question by Prisoner.] Were you present at the house of Nagur Bhugut at the time I went there to take security from certain parties?—*Answer.* Yes; I went there after the foujdar, at the request of Balmoocund, who asked me to become his security; I left the place with the foujdar.

Did I, during that time, go aside with either of the parties?—No.

How many people were there; and who were there?—Some 50 persons were there; among them Pranshunker and Kesrising, Jetha and Umrutlall, Assaram and Bhugoobhaee Munchachund, and others.

Were the opponents of the prosecutors there?—Yes, they were.

Was there any investigation made into the dispute, and how did it terminate?—The parties brought a stamp paper and wrote out a punchayutnamah, but they fell out about it, and it was not concluded; the foujdar then took their security to keep the peace towards one another.

How is the house of the complainant situated; is there a court within?—It is an upper roomed house, and has a court within.

Where did the foujdar sit?—He was sitting on the oatla when I went there.

At what hour did you go to, and when leave the place?—I went there at nine o'clock and left it at three o'clock.

Did the foujdar remain sitting in the same spot all that time?—I went inside to write the punchayutnamah, and do not know what occurred then.

How came you to say that the foujdar never went on one side if you were inside writing?—The foujdar came inside and sat with the punchayut.

How long was the foujdar at the place before you?—I don't know.

[Prisoner having no more questions to ask, witness retires.

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

Buggoo Munchachund, aged 32 years; caste, Wania; occupation, Broker; Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, deposes as follows, on solemn Affirmation, after having been duly admonished:

No. 21.

Is acquainted with the prisoner; has known him 10 or 15 years.

Question by Prisoner.] Were you present at the disturbance which took place at the house of Nagur Bhugu't at the time I went there and took security from the parties, and how long did you remain?—*Answer.* Yes; last year, in the month Falgoon, I went at the request of Balmoocund; at about nine o'clock the foujdar came there after me; I remained there till three o'clock, and then went home after the foujdar left.

How far did you remain from me; did you see me go aside with any of the complainants?—No, I did not see you go aside with them; the foujdar sat on the oatla, but he went up into the house.

Were you in the punchayut?—No.

What were you doing there?—Nothing.

Where did the punch sit?—Up-stairs.

How long did they sit?—They sat some four ghurrees.

Was the foujdar a member?—No; but he came there to look on.

Did the foujdar take the depositions, and where?—Yes; on the oatla.

Did you never lose sight of the foujdar during the six hours you were there?—No; I followed him wherever he went.

How many people had assembled, without and within?—About 100 people outside, and 20 inside the house.

What occasion had you to follow the foujdar?—Because Balmoocund told me to do so he told me to remain there.

[Prisoner having no more questions to ask, witness retires.

The prisoner having been called upon for any further defence which he may wish to make, presents a written paper to the Court, which he states contains all that he has to say.

No. 22. The Court proceeds to read the defence entered by the prisoner, which he recorded.

No. 23 to No. 26. Read and recorded four orders of the magistrate referred to in the defence, dated 10th June, 9th and 18th July, 1849.

No. 27. Read and recorded copies of the certificates, and other correspondence in English, given by the prisoner with his defence, and which he requests may be recorded.

The prisoner having nothing further to say, the Court adjourns with a view to reconsider the evidence before recording its finding.

[Adjourned.

(signed) *A. Spens*, Session Judge.

Tuesday, 31 July 1849.

The Law Officers are present.

The Court resumes its sittings, and case No. 78 of 1849, postponed on the 30th instant, is proceeded with.

The prisoner *Heeralall Gordundass* is placed at the bar, and the Court proceeds to record its finding.

The prisoner is charged with bribery, and pleads not guilty.

The indictment includes three distinct charges, or instances in which the prisoner, who was at the time foujdar of the city of Ahmedabad, is alleged to have abused the authority vested in him and taken bribes from the prosecutors, but all for one purpose, namely to decide, or rather under pretence of deciding, in their favour a dispute they had with another branch of their family regarding the division of ancestral property.

The feud between the parties appears to have extended as far back as Sumvut 1900, (A. D. 1844,) but the matter before the Court did not commence till the month Margsur last year, at which time both parties appear to have applied to the foujdar for his assistance.

Muneedhur Gopaljee was then in Broach, where he had gone to dispose of some kinkobs, the Court will therefore, in reviewing the evidence, follow what is deposed to by his elder Oopindra with regard to the first charge, namely the payment of the (900) nine hundred rupees, and will deal with each charge separately.

Oopindra states that in the month of Margsur last year, the family quarrel had come to a great length, and having heard that their opponents had gone to seek the assistance of the foujdar, he sent his nephews (by the mother's side), Nugindas and Munsook, to him also for the same purpose; that the foujdar threatened them, and gave them to understand that they would be losers in the case unless they paid him (1,000) one thousand rupees; that his nephews agreed to pay (900) nine hundred rupees, and came back and reported what they had done, and that he having consented to pay the money sent Nugindass two or three days after to get it from their banker, "Wurufbookun Damoder," which he did, and the same evening at about eight or nine o'clock they and Munsook took the bag to the foujdar's room above the "della," (literally stable), where the money was counted out to the foujdar. He states that at the time they presented themselves before the

the foujdar, two or three men were with him, who he desired to retire, and that he also desired that Nugindass and Munsook should remain outside, which they did, standing on the stairs, but sufficiently near both to hear and to see. That after paying the money they returned home, and the transaction was entered in the books of the firm.

The above is fully corroborated by Nugindas Ootumram and Munsook Hurgovind; it appears entered in due form and regularity in the books of the firm under date 12th Margsur Shood, Sumvut 1904, (see exhibit No. 3) as also under the same date in the books of their banker, Wurjbookun Damoder, (see exhibit No. 10.) In these entries all necessary particulars are given; the books of the banker are ponderous volumes, containing transactions for large amounts, and there is nothing to induce the Court to suspect that the entries in either of the books are fraudulent.

Previous to the next transaction occurring, Munidhur had returned from Baroda, and with regard to this item, namely, the payment of (500) five hundred rupees, through a person named Pranshunker, the Court will follow his statement, although it differs but little from that given by his brother.

He deposes to the following effect: That in the month Falgoon, about three months after the above occurrence, the feud still continuing, they thought of seeking the advice of one Pranshunker Hurreeram, a Brahmin and a shrewd man, who people resorted to on such occasions; he at once said that money was necessary; they answered that they would borrow money; Pranshunker objected to this, saying that (900) nine hundred rupees had already been given, and the circumstance had become known to the whole city, and that it would be better, instead of raising money in this way, to pledge some goods, and out of the money pay something to the foujdar, and also have enough to purchase a stamped paper to enter a civil suit, if necessary. That he (Muneedur) then agreed to give two boxes containing silk, valued at about (1,200) one thousand and two hundred rupees, and Pranshunker sent a man of his, named Kesrising, to his house for the silk; that he subsequently heard from Pranshunker that he had pledged the silk with a sowcar named Bhugoobhaee Premchund and had obtained (750) seven hundred and fifty rupees on it, (500) five hundred rupees of which he had given to the foujdar, and had kept (250) two hundred and fifty rupees to purchase a stamp, and that, if required, more money would be advanced on the same property; that after this Pranshunker took him and his brother to the foujdar's house, at which time Nugindass and Munsook went with them, and that the foujdar acknowledged the receipt of the (500) five hundred rupees to his brother Oopindra, who alone went inside with Pranshunker, but that he and Nugindass and Munsook also heard what was said from where they were standing outside, where they had remained at the suggestion of Pranshunker.

The above is corroborated by the evidence of Oopindra, Nugindass, and Munsook. Nugindass enters into more details in his relation, but all agree in all material points. The fact of the silk having been pledged by Kesrising is also shown by the books of the sowcar.

Against this there is the testimony of Pranshunker and Kesrising; the former denies having raised money on the silk, or that he ever recommended the parties to bribe the foujdar, or that he even knew that they had taken their complaint before him; he admits his acquaintance with the complainants, and that he had been consulted by them, and had recommended their going to law, and that by his direction the silk was pledged by Kesrising, but that he himself took no active part in the matter.

Kesrising deposes that he pledged the silk on account of the complainants, at the request of Pranshunker, with the sowcar, Bhugoobhaee, and received 800 rupees on it, but declares that he did not pay the money to Pranshunker, but to Chemunlal, the brother of complainants, who, at the time, said they had to purchase a stamped paper, and pay the foujdar with it; but Chemunlal denies this *in toto*, and declares that he never received a rupee of the money from Kesrising.

The Court finds therefore, with regard to the main point, viz., the delivery of the money; the complainants positively declaring that they paid the foujdar (500) five hundred rupees through Pranshunker, through whose means also the money was raised, and Pranshunker and his man, Kesrising, as strenuously denying the fact. It is for the Court to decide which side to believe, whether the testimony given by Muneedhur, Oopindra, Nugindass, and Munsook, and in addition that of Chimunlal, who declares that he never received any of the money raised on the silk from Kesrising, or that of Pranshunker, supported with regard to one material point only by his man Kesrising.

The Court finds, on the one hand, a story consistent throughout, and is quite at a loss to guess even why the complainants should have fixed upon Pranshunker, and insisted that he was the man who they had employed in the manner they allege they did, if such had not been the case; on the other hand, the Court looks upon Pranshunker as an accessory with the prisoner, and that it was of the utmost importance for him to deny what he is alleged to have said and done, and that on this ground alone his statement, and that of his man, cannot be credited in opposition to the evidence for the prosecution; but besides this, his story is scarcely consistent; he admits having been consulted by the complainants and assisting them to raise money, and there is no doubt that the money was raised through him, yet he declares that he did not know that the money had been raised till informed by Kesrising and Muneedhur, although Kesrising had obtained the money at two different times, and had kept (350) three hundred and fifty rupees of it by him for two days, because Muneedhur objected to receive in part, and Kesrising, although employed by Pranshunker, states that he did not tell Pranshunker that he had got the money. These are im-

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedebad.

probabilities at least, which, added to the fact that any admission on the part of Pranshunker that he was a party to giving the bribe would have placed him in a very awkward position, induces the Court at once to lay aside the evidence given by these two witnesses.

It now remains only to notice the evidence regarding the delivery of the gold necklace to the prisoner; and in this, again, the Court will follow the statement made by Muneedhur. He deposes, that a few days after the payment of the (500) five hundred rupees the foujdar came to their house to put down a disturbance which had taken place outside the house, caused by their opponents having come there, at which time the prisoner threatened to go away and leave matters as they were unless more money was paid; that he represented to the foujdar that he had already paid much money and had no more; whereon the foujdar demanded something, and at his further request, being oppressed and afraid, he gave him a gold neck ornament which he was then wearing; that he did this openly in the presence of many people, among whom were his brother Oopindra, and Nugindas, and Munsook and Umeerchur, and Purvoodass Bhugwandass.

The above statement is fully confirmed by the testimony of the witnesses named, and cannot be gainsaid by the negative evidence of the two witnesses on behalf of the defence; one of them was the person employed in writing out a razeenamah or punchayutnamah, and could not have had opportunity of continually watching the prisoner, and it is not to be supposed that during the six hours the other witness says he was there, there could have been no opportunity for the necklace being delivered unseen by him.

The defence of the prisoner consists chiefly in his impugning the evidence for the prosecution; the Court has, however, discovered no great discrepancies, no greater than could have been expected in the narrative of a true story; variations in their relations by persons in respect to unimportant circumstances are not necessarily indications of falsehood; and in the opinion of the Court a full account of all the minute transactions recorded in this trial could not have been got up with so little variation. The prisoner has stated nothing beyond general assertion, except with regard to the evidence of Pransunker and Kesrising, and the Court, for the reasons given above, does not consider their testimony as of any importance; Pranshunker was in fact *particeps criminis*.

The prisoner has begged that certain certificates as to character may be recorded, and letters to show that he had been long endeavouring to leave Ahmedabad in consequence of having brought upon himself by his upright conduct the enmity of the inhabitants; but the Court is far from following him in this argument. It appears that he had long since taken bribes, and if it is proved that he did so in the instance brought to light in these proceedings, he might have done so in 100, and the Court doubts not that he has felt himself of late years in an uncomfortable position from fear of exposure.

There is yet one point in the defence to be noticed. The prisoner states that he was sent by the magistrate of Dhundooka, and during his absence the case was got up against him *ex parte*; that he was recalled and immediately committed to take his trial before the Session Court, on three charges; that he protested against these proceedings, and demanded delay, that he might be tried by some other authority and have time to procure the aid of Mr. Howard, a barrister from Bombay, but that his prayer was not listened to.

With regard to the prisoner having been sent to Dhundooka the Court has nothing to do, but as to the rest the Court remarks, that it appears from the proceedings of the magistrate that the prisoner was confronted with his accusers, and had opportunity given of questioning them, and of entering into his defence; the prisoner was reminded of this when he made the same objections at the commencement of this trial at the time of pleading not guilty to the indictment, and informed that, without reference to the past, his case would be tried *de novo*, and that he should have every opportunity offered him of defending himself, but that the Court could not look upon his case as requiring any deviation from the usual course, and that delay could not be allowed; and the proceedings will show that the prisoner availed himself of the assistance of a vakeel and cross-examined the witnesses, and defended himself to the best of his power, and that the Court rendered him every assitance.

The Court is not of opinion that the high estimation the prisoner may formerly have been held in, can be taken into consideration as an extenuation of his present offence; the Regulations view bribery and abuse of authority as crimes of great magnitude, and lay down (7) seven years as the limit of punishment which can be awarded, and the Court considers that more decided cases could scarcely be met with than those which have now been brought against the prisoner.

The Court finds the prisoner guilty of the charge as laid in the indictment, and under the above view of the crime of which he has been convicted passes the following sentence:

That you, Heeralal Gordhundass, having been found guilty of bribery, in having on or between the 12th Margsur Shood to Chytur Wud Amas, Sumvut 1904, corresponding with 19th December 1847 to 3d May 1848, as police amildar (foujdar) of the city of Ahmedabad, abused the authority vested in you and received as a bribe from Muneedhur Gopaljee and Oopindra Gopaljee Khatree the sum of (1,400) one thousand and four hundred rupees in ready cash, and a gold neck ornament valued at (300) three hundred rupees, making a total of (1,700) one thousand and seven hundred rupees, under the pretence of assisting the said Muneedhur and Oopindra Gopaljee in the settlement of their affairs with reference to this case, and the conviction recorded against you in case No. 76, suffer five years' imprisonment, without labour.

Regulation

Regulation XII., section 8, clause 1st, of 1827.
Issued the usual warrant to the nazir.
Wrote a letter to the magistrate.

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

(True extract.)
(signed) *A. Spens*, Session Judge.

No. 28.
No. 29.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut, dated 13 August, 17 and 24 September 1849.

Present: Messrs. Warden, Le Geyt and Grant.

13 August 1849.

READ the petition of Heeralal Gordhundass, by his vakeel Muyaram Dajee, representing that he applied to the session judge and magistrate of Ahmedabad to stay the investigation of the charges against him until the arrival of a lawyer from Bombay, but received no answer, and praying that the sentence of five years' imprisonment passed upon him may be annulled. Heeralal Gordhundass.

Report and proceedings to be called for from the session judge. Resolution.

The magistrate is requested to report upon those parts of the petition which affect his department.

Precept issued to the session judge of Ahmedabad, No. 662.

Extract of the above proceedings and copy of the petition forwarded to the magistrate of Ahmedabad under the usual precept, No. 662 A.

17 September 1849.

Present; Messrs. Warden and Grant.

Resumed consideration of the petition of Heeralal Gordhundass, by his vakeel Muyaram Dajee, last before the Court on the 13th August 1849. Heeralal Gordhundass.

Resumed consideration of the petition of Heeralal Gordhundass a convict in the Ahmedabad jail, last before the Court on the 27th August 1849.

Read a return from the session judge of Ahmedabad, dated the 30th August 1849, to the Court's precept of the above date, forwarding papers and proceedings in the cases, Nos. 76, 77, and 78 of the Ahmedabad General Calender of 1849, together with his report, as called for.

Under consideration. Resolution.

24 September 1849.

Present; Messrs. Warden and Grant.

Resumed consideration of the petition of Heeralal Gordhundass, by his vakeel Muyaram Dajee, last before the Court on the 17th September 1849. Heeralal Gordhundass.

Resumed consideration of the petition of Heeralal Gordhundass, a convict in the Ahmedabad jail, last before the Court on the 17th September 1849.

Resumed consideration of the petition of Heeralal Gordhundass, by his vakeel Muyaram Dajee, last before the Court on the 17th September 1849.

Vakeels, Mr. Howard and Muyaram Dajee, Mooktiar Maneckjee Cursetjee.

Minute recorded by *J. Warden*, Esq., Puisne Judge.

The prisoner in this case is described as having made himself so unpopular, as to have sought removal from Ahmedabad, and it may therefore be expected that he should be very wary in the execution of any act which could expose him to the vengeance of the people of the city. I attach no weight in cases of bribery to the silence of the accusers at one time, as contrasted with their vociferous complaint at another. Supposing persons to have given money as a bribe, they would through all the phases of their case, until all hope of advantage was entirely abandoned by them, remain silent, and afterwards be proportionately loud in their lamentations. Neither do I attach much weight to the equivalent for the bribe not being obvious. Natives will (particularly when they have a family feud) bribe officials without any distinct specific object in view, and simply to secure general favour.

The prisoner complains too, in this and another case in which he has been convicted, of its not being apparent how, when, where, and by whom information was laid against him, but it is a received maxim that police may act on public rumour. However much, too, I deprecate what the prisoner calls his being "deported," and in his absence information invited, I do not consider that this circumstance will emancipate the prisoner from the effects of evidence which carries home to the understanding an undoubting conviction of his guilt.

With these prefatory remarks on the general history of the case, I proceed to observe on the evidence.

In the deposition of Muneedhur, the eldest of the four brethren who depose to the facts of the bribery, hearsay is so commingled with personal knowledge of facts, as to render it difficult to distinguish one from the other, though this is the less important, as the evidence of the whole family is so harmonious on the principal features of the case, as to leave little or no doubt but that Muneedhur's story would tally with the rest. The prisoner says it was only when he pointed out that Muneedhur was at Baroda at the time when in his depositions he professes to be at Ahmedabad, that he explained that being members of

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

one firm, he could speak of himself as present and acting when, in fact, he was absent; this is, at best, a lame excuse, and Muneedhur's evidence is worth nothing. Magistrates seek to advance the cause of justice by stealing a march on the accused, and taking evidence against him, either before his arrival in, or after his expulsion from the magistrate's presence; if the prisoner had been present when Muneedhur gave his evidence, he would have pointed out that a witness was speaking of what passed at Ahmedabad while he himself was at Baroda. The prisoner, in his defence before the Court, points to discrepancies in the evidence of the rest of the family and their retainers, and in addition to these, it is to be remarked, that they are directly contradicted by the only independent witness, Pranshunker, who is called a shrewd man, to whom people go when in difficulty, a general referee, and who denies the part which the family ascribe to him, namely, that of having been the medium of payment of one item of bribe; denies having seen another instance, though present on the occasion; and denies having advised pledging goods because the first bribe had become notorious, and says he so advised because money was scarce. In respect to the two other instances of bribery, by the family themselves, we are called on to believe that a person against whom every man's hand is raised received a gold necklace on the occasion of a tumult, caused by a family feud, in the presence of a crowd of the party opposed to that which was so purchasing his advocacy, and, secondly, took a bag of money from one relation after desiring the other to withdraw, one of whom, at least, was cognisant of the transaction; and yet prisoner was so careless that although he ordered their absence, he did not secure their so withdrawing as not to witness the transfer of the money to him.

Although therefore the prisoner may have been corrupt, I do not believe that he was so in the manner affirmed by the witnesses, whose story I discredit. No novice in the art of taking bribes could have acted more indiscreetly than this experienced bribe-taker is described to have done in the very face of his enemies. This conviction cannot in my opinion stand.

(signed) *J. Warden.*

No. 76.

Second Minute by *J. Warden*, Esq., Puisne Judge.

In my minute on No. 78, in which there is the same prisoner, I have made some general remarks on these charges against him of bribery, and I will now therefore merely observe that the evidence in this case, stripped of the hearsay introduced into the record, not only of the witnesses, but of the judgment also, is as follows:

The prosecutor after his release from confinement by the police authorities, on suspicion of receiving the goods of a murdered person, entered into his accounts a payment of 80 rupees, of the existence of which he had no personal knowledge, but entered it on the word of his clerk. (The account is produced). He in the presence of many persons, of whom not one is forthcoming, offered the prisoner security for his appearance, until the 20th September, the date of the alleged disbursement, when he was released; his goomasta took 80 rupees from the shop and gave it to a person, now deceased, and in whose company the goomasta went to a house (which the prisoner offered to prove, but was not allowed, was not his), when the deceased took the money up-stairs, the goomasta remaining below; the prisoner when he came down acknowledged to the goomasta that he had the money, of which acknowledgement there is no corroborative evidence, in consequence of the death of the goomasta's companion, who is supposed to have paid it; after which the prosecutor was released on security. The apprehension of the prosecutor, and his release, are proved by the magisterial records, and nothing more. The prisoner pleaded the insufficiency of this evidence for the prosecution, and remarked that the prosecutor, having been apprehended because the clothes of a murdered woman were found in his house, could not be bailed till he could clear himself of all suspicion of connexion with the murder; that the records of the case alluded to will prove that the goomashta of the prosecutor endeavoured to provide a person to claim the clothing and to clear the prosecutor, and that he was released by the order of the magistrate; and adds, what is not on the record of the trial, that while the gomashta knew of the disbursement entered in the accounts, his son professes unaccountable ignorance of it, and that he (the prisoner) undertook to prove (but was not allowed) that the prosecutor's accounts had been officially declared unworthy of trust. On which it may be remarked, that there is something not quite as open as should be in respect to this clothing, for while the gomashta pleads his master's order for his visit to the woman, for whom it is said he wished to claim it, the prosecutor denies all knowledge of such visit; that the entry in the accounts is not of the nature of corroborative evidence, for it is only a note by the prosecutor of an affair told him by the clerk, and which the clerk then told the Session Court; a record, in another shape, of one and the same evidence, but not evidence in itself; but that it did not appear that the prosecutor was released by order of the magistrate, but at the discretion of the prisoner.

The evidence recited above is not, in my opinion, sufficient to sustain the charge, which is not properly laid, as the bribe was not taken from the prosecutor, who was in confinement when it is said to have been paid, but from his goomashta, who is not alive to speak to the payment, if such ever was made.

In dismissing these cases against Heeralal, it is fair to him to state that a perusal of a third case, in which he has been acquitted, tends to the belief that the present acquittal is not the result of want of proof alone, but that the evidence has been fabricated, for in the third case alluded to we have likewise a pair of witnesses to the payment, one up-stairs,

one

one below; a pair of accounts tallying exactly, and the same murder case as the cause of the bribery. The case is, in short, what the lawyers designate "on all fours" with the cases in which a conviction has been recorded, and as the evidence is clearly fabricated in this, so it may be in those also which have now been reviewed. Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

(signed) *J. Warden.*

Minute recorded by *G. Grant*, Esq., Puisne Judge.

No. 78.

The evidence in this case has been so ably analysed by my colleague, Mr. Warden, that it is unnecessary for me to say more than that I concur in the view he has recorded, that it is not trustworthy; but on evidence not obnoxious to so much doubt, it would have been almost impossible to convict under the illegal proceedings in this case, and under circumstances so violently improbable as those under which the prisoner is charged with having received bribes; one in open cutcherry before numbers of persons, and all for an object which it is almost impossible to believe that the alleged givers of the bribes could have supposed that the prisoner had any power of furthering. The matter in dispute was entirely of a civil nature, which the foujdar could not influence for good or bad; he could not have either continued in possession for one hour the party occupying the house, nor have dispossessed him, nor given possession to the opposite party. The illegality of the proceedings, both in the magisterial department and in the judge's court, is very much to be regretted. It is hardly possible to conceive anything more fatal to a case than, first, removing a prisoner from the scene of his trial or investigation into charges preferred against him, and afterwards refusing to take evidence offered for the defence, on the plea that it is useless.

I would annul the conviction, and direct the prisoner's discharge.

(signed) *G. Grant.*

Minute in Case No. 76.

There are the same objections, as regard procedure in this Case, as in Case 78; the prisoner was removed from the scene of the investigation into the charges against him, and the evidence tendered by him for the defence was not taken. There is no evidence whatever of the alleged bribe having been received by the prisoner, the person who is said to have given it having died, and the only two witnesses, who speak from hearsay to the fact, contradict each other in several instances. I cannot see that the prisoner did more than his duty in refusing to bail Petamber whilst the charge of murder was being inquired into; and when he did release him it was on good and sufficient bail.

I do not think the conviction can be upheld. I would acquit the prisoner, and direct his discharge.

(signed) *G. Grant.*

Resolution.

The Court annuls the convictions and sentences, and directs the discharge of the prisoner.

Extract of the above proceedings, and papers and petition, forwarded to the Session Judge of Ahmedabad, under the usual precept, No. 781.

(True extract.)

(signed) *J. Morris,*
First Assistant Registrar.

Minute recorded by Mr. *Warden.*

No. 76, 77, and 78. Ahmedabad.

It is very properly considered that the courts below should not, in making returns to precepts, add epistolary communications; and I think it would be well to establish it as a rule, that when communications in such shape reach the registrar, he should return them without circulating them, and with an endorsement, "Returned, because it is not in the form of a return to a precept."

Interchange of letters gives these discussions the appearance of personal altercation, which they are not, and which they should not, therefore, appear to be.

If the session judge did not, in No. 76 of his calendar, omit to take the evidence for the defence, it is on his own account to be regretted that his record of the trial is as it is.

The prisoner says, at the close of his defence, "witnesses may be called to prove that he was not living at the place when the bribe is said to have been paid, and that he has not slept there since Shrawun Shoodh last (August 1848), and only sometimes goes there, but generally remains at his house, and has never gone to the della (stable) in the morning." He has "nothing further to say."

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

The very next words of the record are, "Proceedings are closed, and the court proceeds to record its finding;" and this court, therefore, could only conclude from the session judge here, omitting the words prescribed for this place in his record; viz. "The prisoners having nothing further to add to their defence, the evidence on their behalf is now taken;"* that he omitted, in fact, that which his record and the prisoner say he did omit.

The court had a right to conclude, too, that this omission was made because the session judge considered the evidence "useless;" for he adds, in his judgment, "The court is not disposed to attribute much importance to any part of the defence; it is very likely that the prisoner did not inhabit the accommodation above the della, or stable, where the bribe is said to have been taken, as a place of residence; but he may have gone there occasionally, and it may have been the very place where he generally met people seeking private audience of him, and where people wishing to offer a bribe would likely follow him."

Instead of thus assuming that this stable may have been the prisoner's occasional residence, and the very place where he may have granted private audience to those wishing to bribe him, the session judge should have, especially if he intended so to use this part of the prisoner's defence, offered to the prisoner to receive the evidence to which he alluded, by which it would, he said, be proved that he had not slept in the stable since August, and never went there in the morning.

The point next noticed by the session judge, the court distinctly mentioned on its proceedings, was an addition by the prisoner, and not on the record. It is to be found in the prisoner's petitions to this court. It was fair to the trying court to let it know what the prisoner said before this court in respect to the manner of his trial, at the same time that it is satisfactory to this court to read the denial of the session judge, that the prisoner had undertaken to prove that the accounts on which he was condemned had been "officially declared unworthy of trust," and was not allowed to do so.

In reference to the 6th and 7th paras. of the letter of the session judge, it is only necessary to observe that he has fallen under a misapprehension in applying the last paragraph of the remarks of this court to Case No. 78, the review of which ceased with the previous paragraph.

The court, in dismissing the three cases, drew the attention of the trying judge and the magistrate once again to the two most disfiguring features presented in the course of the detailed review it had just completed, by this general remark: "It is hardly possible to conceive anything more fatal to a case than first to remove a prisoner from the scene of his trial, and then refuse to take the evidence offered in his defence on the plea of its being useless."

Case No. 78, to which the session judge would apply this closing observation, required no such additional objection to the conviction, which was set aside on account of the acknowledged falsehoods of the witness Muneedhur, the discrepancies between the evidence of himself and his brethren, and that of the independent witness to whom they themselves appealed, and the incredibility of their story in respect to the necklace.

(signed) *John Warden.*

3 December 1849.

No. 388 of 1850.

To *C. M. Harrison*, Esq., Session Judge, Ahmedabad.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Judges of the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut to return the accompanying letter, addressed to the court by your predecessor, under date the 18th October last, it being considered irregular, as any representation he might

* Or, as in this particular 'case,' "the prisoner has nothing further to add to his defence, and no evidence on his behalf to be taken."

might have to make on the subject should have been made in his return to the court's precept to which he refers. Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. H. Harrison*,
Acting Registrar.

Bombay, Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut,
5 February 1850.

(True copies.)
(signed) J. Morris, First Assistant Registrar.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Bell*.

THE systems of criminal administration at Madras, and under this Presidency, differ so much in their mode of procedure, that it is difficult to draw any comparison between their results.

The results, for instance, exhibited in paragraph 41 of Mr. Acting-Secretary Bayley's minute could never happen here; they show, first, that of 102 persons acquitted and released by the Madras Foujdaree Adawlut, 81 were convicted by the session judges; and, secondly, that nine persons, not convicted by the session judges, were convicted and sentenced by the Foujdaree Adawlut, from which, and from other portions of these papers, it appears that under the Madras Presidency prisoners who are tried and found innocent by the session judge may be retained in custody, and tried again by the Foujdaree Adawlut, and found guilty.

This could never occur under our system, for a prisoner acquitted by the session judge is at once liberated, and as only the cases of those who are convicted by that officer are referred to the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut, if the sentence is of a nature to require it, it follows that the acquittal and release by that tribunal of a greater number than were convicted by the session judge could never happen here, even if the whole of his convictions were reversed.

Of the 209 prisoners tried by the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut here last year, only 20 were acquitted; the difference, therefore, is only 1·045 (decls.) per cent. in respect to the judgments of our lower and higher courts, which is very much below the difference at Madras, stated in paragraph 42 of Mr. Acting-Secretary Bayley's minute to be 80 per cent. Our district and village police disposed of 25,899 offenders last year, and the European magistrates of 4,021, making a total of 29,920. Of this number, 2,153 were committed to the session courts, in which 878 were acquitted and 1,275 convicted; and of the latter, the 209 alluded to above, came up before the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut and were disposed of as mentioned.

In one point the two systems approach each other, viz. the despatch in the disposal of cases by the two superior courts; the average delay before the Madras court being 5½ days, and before our court seven days. Our old form of annual criminal return did not show the period that intervened between the dates of apprehension and final sentence of an offender, but this is provided for in the new form of return about to be introduced.

(signed) *A. Bell*.

26 May 1850.

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor. No. 1547.

I HAVE now had under consideration the proceedings of the session judge of Ahmedabad, together with those of the Sudder Court, which have led to the letter addressed by Mr. Bettington to the Court on the 24th January 1850, No. 12.

I have also considered the Sudder's letter, No. 587, of the 21st February.

The first point to which Mr. Bettington refers in the 28th para. of his letter, relates to the justification of his proceedings.

That Mr. Bettington acted in the full belief that his proceedings were legal and necessary, I cannot entertain a doubt. I regret, however, that he should have sent Heralal from Ahmedabad, nor do I perceive the necessity for so violent a measure.

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

a measure. He (Heralal) could not have destroyed the evidence referred to in the 26th para. of Mr. Bettington's letter; while under the supposition that he was innocent, no steps could have been taken more likely to lead to conspiracy on the part of his enemies, and to fabricated evidence.

In regard to the three charges on which Heralal was tried, and convicted upon two of them, by the session judge, which convictions were reversed by the Sudder, the impression left upon my mind is not favourable to his innocence.

The very fact of his great unpopularity, which he himself avows, as evinced in the particular manner detailed in paras. 26 and 27 of Mr. Bettington's letter before referred to (that is to say, by numerous charges of corruption being preferred against him, and documents indicated by which their truth could be established), in my opinion tells extremely to his disadvantage.

Where a man is just in his conduct, however hard and unpopular in his manner, I do not believe that natives of all classes, castes, and persuasions, will cabal to charge him with dishonesty. Now and then a discontented party will adopt that course; but if he be really honest, the general opinion of the people will not be expressed to his disadvantage in that particular. He will be accused, perhaps, of tyranny and illegal acts, but not of corruption.

Not only are such facts as those related in the 17th para. of Mr. Bettington's letter patent to the world, but every native official is estimated in the bazar at his true value, and the distinction clearly drawn between those who have their price and those who have not.

I own that I differ from the Sudder Judges in respect that I think Heralal guilty; few, if any, of the natives would enter payments in their dufturs many months previously, with the deliberate intention of hereafter charging his enemy with fraud, as has been done in these cases; and it seems absurd to suppose a combination among the numerous parties in whose chopras similar entries have been discovered. It is equally improbable that any natives about to bribe another through the medium of a third party, would, if on the spot, rest satisfied without having convinced themselves at the time of payment that the money had been received by the party for whom it was intended. But from the propensity of natives to support true charges by false evidence, it is next to impossible to produce a charge of this kind, the evidence in proof of which shall not admit of doubt. I am not surprised, therefore, at the decisions of the Sudder Judges, the evidence being objectionable in many respects, as has been ably pointed out, and moreover deficient in some points, in which good evidence might have been obtained. It is also particularly to be regretted, as the judges observe, that evidence which the prisoner wished to tender should have been rejected by the session court, although he was not allowed to be present when the charges were framed by the magistrate against him.

Note.—Europeans are an exception; for between them and the natives social habits and opinions, not less than their position in the country, interpose an impassable barrier.

But in trials like these it is upon general considerations, and upon an analytical comparison of the evidence, not merely in regard to the statements of the witnesses, but to motives and probabilities that we must have our conclusions as to the occurrence of particular facts and the truth of particular charges.

In regard to the second point touched upon by Mr. Bettington, viz., the necessity for preliminary investigations, the court have pointed out that they are not prohibited by law, only that they cannot be taken on oath.

This I think a great defect. It seems that Mr. Bettington's procedure, under Regulation XII., section 12, clauses 1 and 2, was, as far as he conducted it, a trial, not a preliminary inquiry.

It is evidently desirable that a magistrate should have the power to conduct a preliminary inquiry on oath, binding the deponents down by penalty to speak the truth, and thereby precluding wanton accusations from being made, or accusations once made from being at pleasure retracted.

I had hitherto been under the impression that a magistrate's proceedings by Regulation XII., section 12, clause 1, were preliminary inquiries, except in cases where sentences were passed, or the prisoner committed to a superior court to stand his trial; and for this reason, that if a magistrate under that section dismiss a prisoner from the bar, not finding the evidence sufficient, the prisoner on further evidence being forthcoming, can again be re-arrested and brought to trial for the same offence. The prisoner's dismissal is clearly no acquittal, and, therefore, as I view it, the original proceedings are not necessarily a trial, but the preliminary inquiry which all magistrates are empowered to make.

However, as the court have decided that preliminary inquiries cannot be conducted

ducted on oath, I know of no other remedy but an Act to declare that they can be so conducted, and this it might be inexpedient to ask for. Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

Mr. Bettington has suggested, in the third place, that counsel should attend on the part of Government to sustain the convictions of the lower courts on appeals before the Sudder.

This the Sudder have themselves recommended, though it must be obvious that if the duties of the judges were efficiently discharged, the appointment in criminal cases would be useless.

For if the conviction were a good conviction, no special pleading should be allowed to divert the judges from confirming it. On the other hand, if it were wrong, no one can desire that argument and ingenuity should be employed to make it appear right and equitable, and to give the judges a pretext for enforcing its execution.

In plain truth, the appointment of a legal officer for the purpose proposed is a reflection upon the court, and I would rather, if possible, that it could be avoided. But I should be glad to be favoured with the opinions of my colleagues on this subject, not only as to the propriety of the appointment, but, if proper, as to the steps which should be taken for procuring it to be made.

The subject of the fourth of Mr. Bettington's suggestions is now under consideration. There can be no doubt that what he recommends is not only highly desirable, but necessary for the ends of justice. The court will probably concede this point, on consideration of our recent reference.

I do not think it advisable to make the reference proposed in the fifth suggestion. The necessity for granting the right of appeal to a supreme court, from the decisions of the local officers vested with the extraordinary powers of our magistrates and judges, is so clear as to be almost self-evident. If there be a fault, it is not in the system, but rests between the local officer and the judges of the superior court. But when the reasons for reversing a decision are communicated to the lower courts, complaints like those urged by Mr. Bettington will probably cease, or at least become less common.

In relation to this subject is an accompanying memorandum by Mr. Bell, the senior Puisné Judge of the Sudder, to which I beg to call the attention of my colleagues, and which has been submitted by the secretary. It was elicited by a consideration of the criminal returns for Madras, for the first half of the year 1848.

From this memorandum it appears that out of 1,278 parties convicted by the session courts, under this Presidency, during the preceding year, 209 had been revised by the Sudder, and of these only 20 were acquitted; a very important fact. I would remark, in conclusion, that when the subjects discussed in this Minute have been set at rest by our decision, I think it is due to Mr. Bettington to inform him that we approve, in this instance, of his having submitted a copy of his letter to the Sudder for our observation. It should be shown how his suggestions have been disposed of, and he should be told that although not approving of his proceedings in all respects, we have not omitted to notice the zealous and efficient manner in which he performed his duties as magistrate on this occasion.

8 June 1850. (signed) *Falkland.*

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby.* No. 1548.

THE general scope of Mr. Bettington's letter of the 24th January last, is to appeal against the proceedings of the Sudder Court, for having acquitted a notorious and convicted receiver of bribes; but he mixes up several questions which are involved in the consideration of these papers, and which it is important to keep distinct.

2. It may be perfectly true that Heeralal is a guilty receiver of bribes, and yet his conviction in the two cases, which were appealed to the Sudder Court, may have been correctly quashed. With the latter question we can only deal collaterally, as it bears on the propriety of acceding to Heeralal's being dismissed from his appointment, and on the general question varied by Mr. Bettington, as to the expediency of allowing appeals in criminal cases. Nor

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

must we yield to the decision of the Sudder Judges, on the cases before them, however erroneous we may consider them to be.

3. The Sudder Court, however, had not before them the general question of Heeralall's guilt, is proved by the several instances which Mr. Bettington is satisfied can be, or have been, established against him; and the general report of the community at Ahmedabad, which would not be admissible as evidence in any charge of bribery against him; and by the wealth acquired and realised by him, which could only have been so acquired and realised by corrupt and illegal practices.

4. That court were dealing with two cases of alleged bribery, on which the judge at Ahmedabad had found him guilty, on certain recorded evidence, and the evidence adduced in these cases only, and the manner in which it had been obtained. I do not observe that the judges annul the conviction on the ground that the magistrate's proceedings were illegal, and therefore vitiated all the subsequent proceedings before the judge. On the contrary, they analyse the evidence, and express their opinion upon a consideration of the evidence itself, that the guilt of the accused is not established.

5. In one of the cases they advert to the fact, that the accused had referred to evidence, which he considered important, namely, that he was not, at the time specified, in the habit of going to the stable where the bribe is alleged to have been received by him. He did not tender such evidence, but it was the duty of the judge to procure* it, or to ascertain distinctly from the prisoner whether he wished it to be called for or not. I agree in opinion with the judge that it was immaterial; but it was not for him, but for the prisoner, to say whether it was material. In both cases the Sudder Judges advert to the circumstances under which the cases were prepared against the prisoner, as confirming the views they entertained in regard to the untrustworthiness of the evidence, but not, as I understand, as in any degree vitiating the convictions.

* Regulation XIII. of 1827, section 38, clause 3.

6. The numerous other cases referred to by Mr. Bettington, are not yet before the Sudder Court, nor was there evidence before it of Heeralall's great and ill-acquired wealth. These facts, therefore, cannot be taken into consideration, in discussing the propriety of their decision on the two cases before the court.

7. After a careful consideration of the proceedings in these cases, and after rejecting a very large amount of hearsay evidence, which, I regret to observe, was admitted on the record, I cannot refrain from expressing my opinion of Heeralall's guilt, and I cannot but think that if the numerous other cases are properly investigated, and all the collateral evidence which may be admissible against him, introduced into the case in which the evidence may be most clear, a conviction in one or more of them must be procurable on grounds irresistible on appeal.

8. It appears to me that Mr. Bettington's zeal has prejudiced the object which he had in view. It is difficult to define exactly the rule as regards the extent to which the magistrate is to be at liberty to proceed in procuring information, on which evidence may be framed against offenders. Before any offender can be apprehended, an information sanctioned by an oath should be furnished, which shall satisfy the magistrate that an offence had been committed. A magistrate may* proceed on personal knowledge or information, and Section 40 of Regulation XIII. of 1827, expressly authorises any criminal court to procure information otherwise than as therein described (provided the same do not operate towards conviction), which may lead to the discovery of admissible evidence.

* Regulation XII. of 1827, section 9, clause 1.

9. It may be that a magistrate has not power to administrate an oath in prosecuting such inquiries; but I should conceive that he has, and that all such inquiries previous to the apprehension of an offender may be considered information, on which his apprehension is founded. I consider, therefore, that Mr. Bettington, strictly speaking, had authority to take the proceedings he did, similar, as stated by the Sudder Judges, to those adopted by an attorney for the prosecution.

10. But Mr. Bettington was clearly wrong in not going through the whole case again after the prisoner was apprehended. A prisoner is always entitled, even

even when an information is taken in his absence, to have the deposition taken *de novo* in his presence, and not simply read over and re-sworn ; and in a case where the whole evidence has been obtained so as to say *ex parte*, it was incumbent on Mr. Bettington to go through the case magisterially, in regular form.

11. The extreme course adopted by Mr. Bettington could, I think, scarcely have been necessary, though he *bonâ fide* deemed it so. It certainly opened a wide field of remark, calculated to mislead those who had to deal with the case, and to prejudice the case for the prosecution. The prisoner was tried under section 8, clause 1, of Regulation XII. of 1827. Mr. Bettington might have tried him himself, under clause 2, but he very properly sent him for trial before the session judge.

12. I think Mr. Bettington was right, entertaining the strong views he did, to communicate those views to the Government *in extenso*. As regards the propositions submitted by him, he should on the first and second points be informed that the Sudder Court has submitted the proceedings before the session judge and the sudder in the cases mentioned, and the reasons for their decision reversing the sentence of the session judge in two of those cases. That Government do not think it necessary to call for the proceedings before the magistrate in these cases, and that, without offering any opinion on the judgment pronounced by the judges, the Government consider Mr. Bettington was fully justified in sending these cases up for trial, and is not responsible for their failure.

13. I would further inform him that, as regards the course adopted in the first instance, we are not prepared to offer a decided opinion whether so unusual a course was actually necessary for eliciting the truth, but that an extreme case only would justify a magistrate in adopting it. Having, however, adopted that course, Government think that Mr. Bettington ought, when Heeralall was arrested, to have gone through the case magisterially against him in his presence, availing himself of the information previously acquired in conducting that investigation. The Regulations lay down the proper course to be followed by the magistrate in the arrest of an offender and the investigation of the case against him, and when a long preliminary inquiry is in the magistrate's opinion necessary in the absence of the party charged, the Government are disposed to think that the magistrate should conduct that inquiry as suggested by the Sudder Judges, somewhat in the way that an attorney conducting a prosecution in England does, and not in the regular form of deposition, which ought to be taken in the prisoner's presence.

14. Mr. Bettington should also be told that his letter contains a large amount of evidence against Heeralall, which was not included in the cases before the sudder, and which, therefore, cannot be taken into consideration in discussing the judgment in those cases ; and that in carrying on the other cases against the prisoner, all the admissible evidence which has produced in his mind the conviction of Heeralall's guilt should be submitted to the court which is to decide upon it.

15. It is the province of the Sudder to decide on the legality or otherwise of the magistrate's decision : but the above remarks are not intended to militate against the opinion expressed by the Sudder Court as to the taking of depositions against parties charged with offences. Such a course, if illegal, may involve the magistrate in the misconduct of improperly administering an oath, and rendering inadmissible in evidence depositions so taken, but do not otherwise affect the proceedings before the judge at the trial, whose decision, if supported by evidence before him, will not thereby be vitiated. I do not think any alteration of the law can be necessary.

16. As regards the third point, I think that it is advisable in all important cases, among which I would certainly class the present, that some competent law officer should appear before the Sudder to support the conviction of the inferior court. I do not think this is necessary in all the numerous cases which are so appealed. To confine it to cases in which the judges of the Sudder Court are disposed to reverse the decision, would render it necessary for the judges to consider the cases first without the aid of counsel ; and having formed

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

an opinion, it would perhaps, generally speaking, be difficult to shake it; and I am afraid that the judges of the Sudder Court are too much accustomed to forming their opinion on cases, from a perusal of the papers at home, to derive so much benefit as would otherwise be derived from a legal discussion in Court.

17. I do not coincide in the observations on this point of the Right honourable the Governor. In my opinion, it is no imputation on a judge, that the arguments of counsel are valuable in aiding him to form an impartial decision. It is by the arguments of those taking adverse and partial views that judges are chiefly able to form an impartial opinion. It is difficult to specify precisely the cases in which counsel should be heard, and perhaps, notwithstanding the objection above pointed out, it would be better that counsel should be heard in support of convictions when the Sudder Judges consider them of sufficient importance, and entertain doubts as to the propriety of the decision of the inferior courts. From Mr. Bell's minute it appears that the cases would be few, and I should think we might ascertain how far the legal remembrancer is engaged commensurately with his salary, with a view of attaching this duty to the office, or try experimentally the employment of a barrister in each case as it arises, paying him the usual fee, and instructing him through the Government vakeel.

18. On the fourth point, I think that the recorded opinion of the Sudder Judges should in cases of reversal be invariably communicated to the inferior court. This would not involve much labour, and I have no doubt that the Sudder Judges will, on the suggestion of Government, order this course to be adopted, as indeed it seems to have been done in Heeralall's case. The point, I believe, is now under the Court's consideration.

19. On the fifth point, I do not see sufficient reasons for making the inquiries suggested.

20. In his 10th para., Mr. Bettington takes an erroneous view of what is required according to English procedure. No prisoner is ever committed for trial till the evidence against him is gone through in his presence. He has as much a right to satisfy the magistrate conducting the preliminary inquiries, that no case for committing him to trial is made out, as to satisfy the trying court that no case for convicting him is established. In practice, an information is first given behind the offender's back. He is then arrested, and all depositions, including that of the informer, are taken down in his presence and hearing; and he is generally allowed as full a cross-examination as he pleases, and is generally allowed to bring forward proof in refutation of the charge, though this is usually reserved for the trying court: in private prosecutions, where the charge is taken in the first instance before the grand jury, the prosecutor prepares his case behind the back of the accused, but the evidence is not obtained on oath.

21. With reference to the conclusion of the Right honourable the Governor's minute, I think we can scarcely allude to Mr. Bettington's conduct as "efficient." It will be sufficient to commend him for the zeal he has evinced, and a very proper desire to put an end to a system of extortion, which he seems to have had ample grounds for believing to exist.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby.*

21 January 1851.

No. 1549.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Blane.*

ON particular charges, the decision of our highest court of judicature ought, I think, to be treated as conclusive; and I cannot but regard it as more in accordance with the province of Government to abstain from all comment thereon. This indeed has, I think, been inculcated by the Honourable Court.

2. As regards the propriety of dismissal from office, it is sufficient for Government to determine in any case that from all that has come to light, restoration to public employment is considered to be inadvisable.

3. So

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

3. So digressive and superficial a letter as that of Mr. Bettington's, of 29th January 1850, to the address of the Registrar to the Sudder Adawlut, might well, I think, have been left for disposal to that Court; and concurring in the views expressed in the judges' letter of 21st February following, it would, I think, be sufficient to refer the magistrate of Ahmedabad to the reply he may receive direct.

4. The interpretation of the course to be pursued by the magistrate in the apprehension and trial of offenders appears to me to be correctly defined in the said letter of 21st February. Two other points have been raised, viz., the employment of counsel to support Government prosecutions, and the communication of the grounds of the Sudder judges' decisions, in cases of reversal, to the courts below. The former is under separate consideration, as noticed in para. 7 of the judges' letter above referred to, and the latter would seem to be receiving the attention of the judges themselves.

5. I concur with the Honourable Mr. Willoughby in opinion, that Mr. Bettington's conduct can hardly be designated as efficient; and considering the great want of discretion displayed, and the bad effect of such ill-conducted prosecutions, am disposed to regard his proceedings as but little commendable in any light.

(signed) *D. A. Blane.*

3 February 1851.

No. 1550.

FURTHER MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor.

1. I SEE no reason to materially modify the opinions expressed in my Minute of the 8th June 1850.

2. I have no objection that Mr. Bettington should be informed to the purport of the 12th to 14th paras., both inclusive, of Mr. Willoughby's Minute, nor do I dissent from the opinion expressed in the 15th para., that an alteration of the law is unnecessary.

3. On the subject of retaining a barrister on the side of the prosecution, I still think such a measure, in criminal cases, of doubtful expediency; but it may be remarked that the Government of India have, in a recent letter to this Government, admitted that the want of professional agency in cases of that class has been experienced at Calcutta, and have informed us that steps are about to be taken to provide for it.

4. In this Presidency the above evil has, in fact, been remedied since the date of my Minute by the judges themselves, they having obtained the sanction of Government to employ counsel on the side of the prosecution whenever they may deem it necessary that this should be done. In regard to the 16th para. of the Honourable Mr. Willoughby's Minute, I conceive that as the Court of Sudder Adawlut is a court of trial on record, an opinion of the justice and sufficiency of a sentence in a criminal case will be best arrived at by the deliberate consideration of the proceedings which are to be reviewed, without reference to the arguments of a barrister. I therefore adhere to the observations referred to in para. 17 of my honourable colleague, who in his 18th para. recommends a mode of proceeding which has been already established, the Sudder judges having recently ruled that the reasons for modifying or annulling sentences passed by inferior courts should be communicated to the officer who pronounced them.

5. This might be noticed in the Government letter to Mr. Bettington, which should be recorded in accordance with the modification proposed in Mr. Willoughby's 21st para.

(signed) *Falkland.*

8 February 1851.

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

No. 1551.

FURTHER MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby*, subscribed to by the Honourable Board.

I HAVE no further remark to offer.

10 February 1851.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby.*
J. Grey.
D. A. Blane.

No. 1552.

No. 860 of 1851.—Judicial Department.

To *A. Bettington*, Esquire, Magistrate of Ahmedabad, on leave.

Sir,

THE Right honourable the Governor in Council has had under his consideration your letter, No. 12, dated the 24th of January 1850, to the address of the Registrar to the Sudder Adawlut, a copy of which was fowarded by you direct to Government, offering certain observations on the administration of criminal justice in this country, suggested by certain cases which occurred in the Ahmedabad zillah.

2. His Lordship in Council considers you acted properly, entertaining the strong opinions which you did, in making known those opinions direct to Government *in extenso*, as you have done in this instance; and he has now directed me to communicate to you the following observations on the several propositions submitted in the 28th para. of your letter.

3. As regards the first and second proposals, I have been instructed to state that the Sudder Court have submitted their proceedings, and those of the session judge in the cases mentioned by you, and the reasons for their decision, reversing the sentence of the session judge in two of those cases. The Governor in Council does not deem it necessary to call for the proceedings which were held before you in these cases; but without offering any opinion on the judgment pronounced by the judges, he considers you were fully justified in sending them up for trial, and that you are not responsible for the failure of the prosecution.

4. I have, at the same time, to add, in reference to the course which you adopted in the first instance, viz., of sending Heeralall away from Ahmedabad, and taking evidence during his absence, that his Lordship in Council is not prepared to admit that so unusual a procedure was actually necessary for eliciting the truth; an extreme case only would justify a magistrate in adopting it. Having, however, done so, he is of opinion that you ought, when Heeralall was arrested, to have gone through the case magisterially against him, in his presence, availing yourself of the information previously acquired in conducting the investigation. The Regulations lay down the proper course to be followed by the magistrate in the arrest of an offender, and the investigation of the case against him; and when a long preliminary inquiry in the absence of the party charged is, in the magistrate's opinion, necessary, his Lordship in Council considers that the magistrate should conduct such inquiry somewhat in the way that an attorney proceeds in conducting a prosecution in England, and not in the regular form of a deposition on oath, which ought to be administered in the prisoner's presence.

5. I have been further directed to observe that your letter contains a large amount of evidence against Heeralall, which was not included in the cases before the Sudder Court, and which, therefore, cannot be taken into consideration in discussing that Court's judgment in those cases. In carrying on the other cases against this individual, all the admissible evidence which has produced in your mind conviction of his guilt should be submitted to the court which is to decide upon it.

6. In regard to the third point, I have been desired to inform you that the judges of the Sudder Court have been recently authorised to employ counsel on the side of the prosecution, in cases of appeal, whenever they may deem it necessary that this should be done.

7. The

Case of Heeralal Govindhun, Foujdar of Ahmedabad.

7. The judges of the Sudr Court have also recently established the rule, that the reasons for modifying or annulling sentences passed by inferior courts shall be communicated to the officer who pronounced them, as suggested in your fourth proposal.

8. His Lordship in Council does not consider it desirable to make the inquiries proposed in your fifth suggestion.

9. In conclusion, I have been directed to intimate to you that although the Right honourable the Governor in Council does not approve of your proceedings in the matter under notice, in all respects, yet he has noticed with satisfaction the zeal you have evinced as magistrate, and the very proper desire you have shown to put an end to a system of extortion, for believing in the existence of which you appear to have had ample grounds.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle,
27 February 1851.

(signed) *J. G. Lumsden,*
Secy. to Govt.

No. 861 of 1851.—Judicial Department.

No. 1553.

To the Registrar to the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut.

Sir,

In returning the proceedings of the Session Court of Ahmedabad on the trial of Heeralall Goverdhun, late foujdar of that city, which accompanied your letter, No. 860, of the 19th of March 1850, I am directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you, for the information of the judges of the Sudder Foujdaree Adawlut, a copy of a communication, No. 860, which I have this day addressed to Mr. Bettington, magistrate of Ahmedabad, in reply to his observations on the administration of criminal justice in this country.

I have, &c.

Bombay Castle,
27 February 1851.

(signed) *J. G. Lumsden,*
Secy. to Govt.

(True extract.)

(signed) A. Richardson, Depy. Secy. to Govt.

Inquiry into the Conduct of Mr. Hanson.

Inquiry into the Conduct of Mr. Hanson, Head Clerk in the Office of the Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan.

EXTRACT Political Letter from Bombay, dated 31 December (No. 135) 1849.

Deccan. Coll. No. 3.
Pol. Cons. 1849:
June 13, No. 4639 to 4641.
August 8, No. 6011.
„ 8, No. 6665.
„ 22, No. 7028.
September 5, No. 7263.
October 18, No. 8549 to 8551.
November 14, Nos. 9554 and 9555.

6. THE proceedings which form Collection No. 3, relate to an investigation which, under our orders, was lately instituted by Mr. Hunter, Officiating Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan, into some charges of bribery and corruption preferred to Government in a petition from a person calling himself Mahadajee Punt Loudhe, an inhabitant of Poonah, against Mr. Hanson, head clerk on the establishment of that officer. The writer of the above representation has not been traced out, and none of the charges have been substantiated against Mr. Hanson, but Mr. Hunter considers that the conduct of that person is not altogether free from suspicion in some of the instances to which he alludes in his report; for reasons, however, mentioned in the proceedings, we have not deemed it requisite to adopt further measures in this case.

EXTRACT Political Letter to Bombay, dated 27 March (No. 12) 1850.

Letter from, dated 31 December (No. 135) 1849.
(6.) Inquiry by Mr. Hunter, Officiating Agent for Sirdars, into charges of corruption, preferred to Government in a petition from a person calling himself Mahadajee Punt Loudhe, against Mr. Hanson, head clerk in his office.

7. THE petitioner did not present himself, or attempt to substantiate his charges.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 13 June 1849.

No. 4639.

PETITION from *Mahadajee Punt Londhe*, Resident of Poonah, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, Bombay,

Humbly showeth,

THAT your Excellency's petitioner being quite tired of the necessity to which he has up to this time being compelled to subject himself, that of paying pretty good sum of money every time he has any business in the Agent's office to the head clerk of that department, implores your Excellency in Council to make some "bundobust." He has often tried to evade the head clerk's unlawful demands, but in vain; he could never succeed in obtaining a "dakla" until he had paid some money to the head clerk. In January last the furnuvee's order directing restoration of pension of 200 rupees, received in about January, was concealed until he paid 100 rupees to the head clerk. He considers it a great hardship to be obliged to pay to the head clerk and others as above stated, every time he has any "dakla" to get from the Agent's office. He knows that many persons pay in the same way, but your Excellency's petitioner is now unable to throw money in this way. Your Honourable Board has established courts to give justice, but virtually they are like fields infested with robbers.

The above pension order, though received in January last, was not entered in the weekly diary for some weeks afterwards, and though he every day attended the court and inquired after it, all knowledge of its having been received was concealed from him until he paid, as mentioned above, 100 rupees to the head clerk. When the Government officers have become so bold, what are your Excellency's subjects to do, or how are they to live? This fact is well known to both the translators and others in the same office, and if the Agent would institute such secret inquiry as the extent of the head clerk's malpractices would seem to need, he cannot fail to arrive at the truth of his statement, as above made.

Bhasker

Inquiry into the Conduct of Mr. Hanson.

Bhasker Kelkur and another carcoon in the Agent's office are in the habit of writing out bonds of agreement for the head clerk; if the Agent would take some intelligent and trustworthy native who knows the characters in the Adawlut as an instrument, and resort to means by which such great robbers as Ragghoo Bangria was are caught, such as holding out a promise of pardon, and even of promotion, to the said carcoon in the event of their divulging the whole truth to the Agent, if this suggestion is adopted, the Agent would soon find out what sort and how trustworthy a head clerk he has under him.

Since the arrival of Mr. Hunter, the head clerk, with a view to prevent the possibility of that gentleman's ever coming to know of his tricks, shuts himself up in a separate room on occasions, and makes the other clerk sit in a separate room, that they should not come to know of his misdoings. This is contrary to the practice hitherto observed in the Agent's office. If the Agent would inspect these two rooms, he will perceive that the head clerk had no other reason to do as above mentioned.

Your Excellency's poor petitioner begs to say that the head clerk is now speedily preparing the report of Khunderow Sing, though there are many other reports (among them one of his) which, if the business was conducted according to order, should have been translated first. Proceedings as these can only be said to arise from self-interest.

Ranjhekur's case, now likely to come out under notice, is a plain roguery of the head clerk to defraud Government, but whether this was done by the late or the present incumbent is not known to your memorialist.

The head clerk is so bold in his misconduct as to employ a man in his household business and to get him paid from the Government cash. There are numerous misdoings of this officer, and all are well known to the people in that office. In short, your petitioner begs to say that he cannot appear as a prosecutor in this case, for charges of extortion can seldom be proved but by collateral evidence, and the exertions of those whose duty it is to catch and put a stop to such malpractices by inflicting exemplary punishment, and that Government may, if it has any regard for the good of its subjects, refer this petition to the Agent, with such instructions as it may deem advisable.

Your humble petitioner begs to remain,

Poonah, 21 May 1849.

No. 4640.

Minute by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby* and the Honourable Mr. *Blane*.

This petition should be sent to the Acting Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan, with instructions to inquire into its authenticity.

These inquiries should be made privately in the first instance, and the genuineness of the document being once ascertained, the examination into the truth of the statements it contains should be conducted cautiously, and I think without the knowledge of the head clerk, against whom the charges are preferred, until it shall be necessary to put him on his defence.

I propose this course, because I am apprehensive that were the investigation to be announced or entered on publicly, without any preliminary steps, intimidation might be resorted to on the part of the accused.

(signed) *Falkland.*
J. P. Willoughby.
D. A. Blane.

28 May 1849.

No. 2403 of 1849.—Political Department (Secret).

No. 4641.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to *W. J. Hunter*, Esq., Acting Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan, Poonah.

Sir,

I am directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you the accompanying original petition, dated the 21st ultimo, purporting to emanate from one Mahadajee Punt Loudhe, charging your head clerk with corrupt practices.

Inquiry into the Conduct of Mr. Hanson.

2. In forwarding this petition, I am desired to request that you will in the first instance institute privately a particular inquiry into its authenticity, and that, should you ascertain it to be a genuine document, you will proceed cautiously to examine into the truth of the statements it contains.

3. Your preliminary examination should be conducted without the knowledge of the head clerk until it shall be necessary to put him upon his defence, for if the accusations are true, his Lordship in Council is apprehensive that were the investigation to be announced or entered upon publicly, without any preliminary steps, intimidation may be resorted to on the part of the accused.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Bombay Castle, 1 June 1849. Chief Secretary.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 8 August 1849.

No. 3023 of 1849.—Political Department (Secret).

No. 6011. From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to *W. J. Hunter*, Esq., Acting Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to call your attention to my letter, No. 2403, dated the 1st ultimo, and to request that you will be pleased to expedite the transmission to Government of the report therein required on the petition from "Mahadajee Punt Londhe," charging your head clerk with corrupt practices.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Bombay Castle, 14 July 1849. Chief Secretary.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 8 August 1849.

No. 3379 of 1849.—Political Department (Secret).

No. 6665. From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to *W. J. Hunter*, Esq., Acting Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan.

Sir,

I AM again directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to draw your attention to my letter dated the 1st June last, No. 2403, and to request that you will be pleased to expedite the transmission to Government of the report therein called for on the petition from "Mahadajee Punt Londhi," charging your head clerk with malpractices.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Bombay Castle, 7 August 1849. Chief Secretary.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 22 August 1849.

No. 3565 of 1849.—Political Department.

No. 7028. OFFICE MEMORANDUM.

THE Acting Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan is requested, with reference to his letter dated the 9th instant, No. 253, to furnish Government with a copy of the petition from "Mahadajee Punt Londhi," dated the 21st May last.

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Bombay Castle, 22 August 1849. Chief Secretary.

Inquiry into the Conduct of Mr. Hanson.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 5 September 1849.

No. 253 of 1849.—Political Department.

From *W. J. Hunter*, Esq., Acting Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay. No. 7263.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters dated 14th ultimo, No. 3023, and 7th instant, No. 3379, and in reply, beg to state that the petitioner is not forthcoming; but that as there is, in my opinion, some truth contained in the petition, I wished before replying to it to obtain from the head clerk any explanation that he may have to offer. He is just now absent on sick certificate, but as soon as he returns I shall lose not a moment in sending in my report.

Trusting this explanation will be satisfactory,

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. J. Hunter*,
Acting Agent.

Agent's Office, Poonah, 9 August 1849.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 18 October 1849.

No. 317 of 1849.—Political Department (Secret).

From the Acting Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan to the Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay. No. 8549.

Sir,

WITH reference to my letter dated the 9th August last, No. 253, I have the honour now to reply to your letter of the 1st June last, No. 2403, transmitting an original petition (herewith returned) purporting to emanate from one Mahadajee Punt Londhey, charging my head clerk with corrupt practices.

Mr. Hanson has returned, and I have questioned him on the points on which I had some information, though I have not elicited anything that would justify my noticing the same to Government. I, however, cannot say that his conduct is entirely free from suspicion.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. J. Hunter*,
Acting Agent.

Agent's Office, Poonah, 5 October 1849.

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby* and the Honourable Mr. *Blane*. No. 8550.

THIS report of Mr. Hunter's is most unsatisfactory. As, however, he states that his head clerk, Mr. Hanson's conduct is not entirely free from suspicion, he should take each point in the petition, and report the result of his inquiry on each to Government; and if he finds his conduct to be such as warrant such a course, he should suspend him during the inquiry, and prevent his coming to the office.

(signed) *Falkland.*
J. P. Willoughby.
D. A. Blane.

9 October 1849.

No. 4350 of 1849.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to *W. J. Hunter*, Esq., Acting Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan. No. 8551.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 5th instant, No. 317, relative to the petition from Mahadajee Punt Landhey, charging the head clerk of your office

Inquiry into the Conduct of Mr. Hanson.

with corrupt practices, and to inform you that your report of this case is most unsatisfactory.

2. As you state that Mr. Hanson's conduct is not free from suspicion, I am desired to request that you will take each point in the petition (which is herewith returned), and report the result of your inquiry on each to Government. In the event of your finding his conduct to be such as to warrant such a course, you should, I am instructed to inform you, suspend him during the inquiry, and prevent his attendance at the office.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 13 October 1849.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 14 November 1849.

No. 332 of 1849.—Political Department.

No. 9554. From the Acting Agent for Sirdars in the Deccan to *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

1. I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 13th instant, No. 4350, informing me that my report relative to the petition charging the head clerk of my office with corrupt practices is most unsatisfactory.

2. In reply, I beg to express my regret that I did not make myself more clearly understood, and I venture to hope that a further explanation of my proceedings will prove that my inquiry into the merits of the petition was sufficiently full.

3. I fear that I misled Government by merely stating that the petitioner was not forthcoming; but the fact is, that, agreeably to the instructions conveyed in your letter accompanying the petition, I immediately instituted a private and particular inquiry as to the authenticity of the petition, the result of which was that no such person as Mahadjee Punt Londhay existed; still, having previously had reason to doubt the honesty of Mr. Hanson, as reported by me to Government, and having discovered that he did, some time after my arrival, sit in a room separate from the other clerks, I deemed it advisable to offer a private interview, either in the Agent's office or house, to the person, whoever he might be, who addressed the petition to Government under the name of "Mahadjee Punt Londhay, an inhabitant of Poonah;" but this offer was not responded to.

4. Under these circumstances, and with the instructions before me, I did not think there was occasion for entering into further detail than I did in my letter of the 5th instant. I will now, however, as directed in your letter under reply, proceed to notice each point in the petition.

In the first place, the order sanctioning the continuance of a pension of 200 rupees per annum to Vittul Bulwunt Furnuwis was received on the 1st or 2d of November 1848. It was regularly entered in the following weekly diary, and a letter, informing both the collector and the pensioner of its receipt, was written and despatched on the 14th of the same month. Any allegation of concealment on this account therefore falls to the ground.

5. The second point is, that Bhasker Kelkur and other karkoons write out agreement bonds for the head clerk. To this Bhasker and all the other karkoons give a flat denial, asserting that they neither knew nor even heard of any such bonds being written.

6. The third part is, that the head clerk shuts himself up in a separate room, with the view of preventing the agent from detecting him in his corrupt practices. This point is so far true, that Mr. Hanson did sit some time after my arrival in a room by himself, which he did not before do. The room, however, was not shut up, but was used as a passage into the room where the other clerks sat.

7. The

Inquiry into the Conduct of Mr. Hanson.

7. The reasons assigned by Mr. Hanson for this separation are unsatisfactory. They are, first, that the room in which the clerks previously sat was about to be repaired; secondly, that he wished to eat his tiffin there by himself, apart from the Brahmin clerks.

8. The fourth point is, that a report respecting Khunderow Sing is being detained; there was, however, no report, but a memorial from that person was detained by the head clerk unnecessarily, and in consequence of this detention, as well as that of some others, I reported to Government, in my letter dated 4th June 1849, an unfavourable opinion of Mr. Hanson's character.

9. The fifth point is the Ranjekur's case; and I am at a loss to understand what is meant by this, as the only case that I can find in which a person of the name of Ranjekur was concerned, was disposed of in 1847, and nothing has transpired since regarding it.

10. The sixth point is, that the head clerk is so bold as to employ a man in his household business, and to get him paid from the Government. It appears the head clerk recommended a mussal who lived in his house to be employed in the Agent's office, and he was accordingly on this recommendation employed by the late Agent in December last. I cannot discover that Mr. Hanson has employed this man further than to bring him his tiffin daily.

11. The seventh point is, that there are numerous misdoings of the head clerk, which are well known to the people of the office. On this I have only to observe, that it is of too general and sweeping a character to deserve notice, when considered in connexion with the misrepresentations above detailed, and that all the carcoons and clerks in my office express their entire ignorance of any such misdoings.

I have, &c.

25 October 1849. (signed) *W. J. Hunter,*
Acting Agent.

P. S.—The petition above alluded to is herewith returned.

(signed) *W. J. Hunter,* Acting Agent.

No. 9555.

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Board.

THIS is satisfactory, and may be recorded.

(signed) *Falkland.*
W. Cotton.
6 November 1849. *J. P. Willoughby.*
D. A. Blane.

(True extract.)

(signed) A. Malet, Chief Secretary.

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

Charges of Bribery and Corruption against the Native Establishment of the Baroda Residency.

Extract Political Letter from Bombay, dated 13 April (No. 51) 1847.

Baroda Residency, Coll. No. 3.
Poll. Cons. 1846.
Nov. 11, No. 8119 to 8122.
Dec. 3, No. 8684.
Dec. 17, No. 9030 to 9032.

5. In continuation of the 9th para. of our despatch, dated the 27th February last, No. 30, we beg to forward, in Collection No. 3, copy of a representation recently made to Government by a person named Goolab Chund Sheochund, containing charges of bribery and corruption against the native agent of the Baroda Residency. We have endeavoured, but without success, to trace out the individual in whose name this representation has been made.

Extract Political Letter to Bombay, dated 18 August (No. 21) 1847.

Letter from, dated 13th April (No. 51) 1847.
(5.) Representation made by a person named Goolabchund Sheochund, containing charges of corruption against the Native Agent of the Baroda Residency. Government has in vain endeavoure d to trace out the individual in whose name the representation was made.

5. In the absence of any person who acknowledged the authorship of this representation, you could take no steps in the matter, further than to communicate it to the Resident.

Extract Political Letter from Bombay, dated 27 February (No. 30) 1847.

Baroda Residency. Coll. No. 5.
Pol. Cons. 1846:
September 23, No. 6872 to 6877.
October 14, No. 7562.
December 3, No. 8766 to 8768.
September 1, No. 6343 to 6345.
October 7, No. 7226 to 7230.
November 11, Nos. 7917 and 7918.
December 3, No. 8763 to 8765.
1847:
January 20, Nos. 350 and 351.
1846:
November 11, No. 8080 to 8082.
December 3, No. 8508 to 8510.
October 7, No. 7231 to 7234.
„ 28, No. 7849.
December 3, No. 8680.

9. We beg to forward, in Collection No. 5, several representations which have been recently made to Government by parties purporting to reside at Ahmedabad and Baroda, containing charges of bribery and corruption against members of the native establishment of the Baroda Residency. From these proceedings your Honourable Court will observe that we have endeavoured, but without success, to trace out any of the parties in whose names these representations have been made, in order that they might be invited to appear, either before the Resident at Baroda, or before our Political Secretary, and that such inquiry as might then appear requisite might be instituted into their accusations.

Extract Political Letter to Bombay, dated 16 June (No. 14) 1847.

Letter from, dated 27th February (No. 30) 1847.
(9.) Respecting several representations made to Government, imputing corruption to members of the Baroda Residency Native Establishment. Government vainly endeavoured to trace the persons in whose names these representations were made.

12. The author of one of these representations (Babojee Sudashew Moga) avowed himself, but as his petition was in the name of a different person (Moro Narrayn), he was informed that no orders could be issued on it, except to that person. Babajee subsequently expressed his intention of appearing personally at Bombay, and producing his proofs, but it appears that he has not done so.

Extract Political Letter from Bombay, dated 16 February (No. 16) 1850.

Coll. No. 3.

4. The proceedings which form Collection No. 3, relate to the recent dismissal by Captain French, from the situation of mehta in charge of the Gaekwar village "Gameta," of an individual named Hurgovind, in consequence of his having been convicted before Lieutenant Battye, Assistant Resident, of a charge of bribery. For our sentiments upon this case, we beg to refer to our Chief Secretary's letter to Captain French, dated the 22d ultimo.

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

EXTRACT Political Letter to Bombay, dated 12 June (No. 18) 1850.

Dismissal, by Captain French, of a mehta, named Hurgovind Asaram, on the ground of bribery, after an investigation by the Assistant Resident, Lieutenant Battye.

17. YOU were of opinion, on account of discrepancies in the evidence, that the charge of bribery was not proved, though there was strong suspicion; therefore, while you confirmed the dismissal of the mehta, you ordered the fine which had been imposed on him to be refunded. We concur in your remarks on the oversights committed by the investigating officer.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 11 November 1846.

Political Department.

SUBSTANCE of a Petition from *Goolabchund Sheochund* to the Honourable the Governor in Council, dated 20th August, and received 9th October 1846. No. 8119.

ASHURAM PURBHOO, who used to convey information from the native agent of the Residency and afford assistance, is dead, and the native agent is now looking out for a man to employ in his place to convey information to this Government. For the present he has employed Wagjeebhaee Borsudkur, and secretly communicates through him with the Baroda Government. Wagjeebhaee has a dispute with the Baroda Government regarding a piece of land, and the native agent has secretly sent word that if the matter should not be disposed of in favour of Wagjeebhaee, he, the native agent, would injure the Baroda Government. He is pressing the Government to appoint his eldest son to the situation of 400 rupees per month, which Asharam held, but his Highness will not agree to this; his Highness tells him that because he makes himself useful in various matters, situations of 500 rupees each per annum will be given to both his sons, but he wishes to have situations of 1,000 rupees each. Before a written communication had been made by the Resident, the native agent secretly furnished information to his Highness of the order issued by the British Government to expel (from the Baroda territory) some persons who had committed an outrage upon some European officers of Dessa. Afterwards his Highness sent Mahadeobhut of the Furneesee department to ask the native agent what reply should be returned on the subject, and to tell him that something would be given to him for his advice. The native agent then told him the reply, and his Highness accordingly wrote to the Resident, raising objections to what had been communicated to him. His Highness purchased from Bappo Hany and others gold worth 5,000 rupees, and sent it through Mahdeobhut to the native agent, for giving the advice. Mahadeobbut also received a reward of 300 rupees. The native agent receives a monthly allowance from his Highness. With a view to prevent these proceedings from being known, the native agent daily sends Bappo Deokur, a karkoon of the Mootalik, to the officers of his Highness, and manages every affair through him. This Bappoo karkoon is a great rogue, and the native agent gives him a 16th part of the bribes he receives through him. The native agent thus receives bribes and gives out information. He was afraid of the former Resident, but he does not fear the present officer, and receives bribes. I think he will carry with him a larger fortune than any of his predecessors. This is the reason why he gave up his high situation for one where he receives less pay. He goes to the kutcherry at two o'clock; he listens only to such petitioners as apply to him through Wagjee Beechur and abuses those who do not do so. This Wagjee publicly goes to the kutcherry and fearlessly inquires of the native agent regarding the cases of the petitioners. The native agent also gives him every information; nothing is now-a-days kept secret in that kutcherry: every one openly does anything he likes. The native agent has taken a writing for 10,000 rupees for settling some affairs of Wittul Rao Dewajee, the late dewan, with his Highness the Guicowar. I am in the habit of going to the house of the late Asharam, and I saw in his duftur a writing passed by him to the native agent regarding the bribes received at Baroda. I beg to send a copy of the writing, for the information of your Honor in Council. Such is the state of things here, and it is surprising that no measures are adopted regarding the

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

native agent. He has got an inordinate desire for money, and if he is continued in the service, both Government and the people will suffer greatly. There are several other matters, and if Government wishes, I shall bring them to notice. I am Guzerathee Banian, and do not know the language nor the characters used by the Marathee people; I have, however, written this short representation. If information on the above subjects should be obtained through the Resident, without the native agent's knowledge, all the particulars will be known.

(signed) *W. Escombe.*
Secretary to Govt.

To *Rajeshree Tatia,* Saheb, writes *Asharam Purbhoo,* of Baroda.

YOUR money on account of your having disposed of cases satisfactorily, amounting to 25,000 rupees, is with me, and I shall pay it to you whenever you require it. Do not be afraid.

(signed) *W. Escombe,*
13 June 1846. Secretary to Government.

No. 8119. MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby* and the Honourable Mr. *Blane.*

I THINK this petition should be disposed of in a manner similar to that adopted in the case of Balajee Krooshun Mawulkur, in conformity with my minute of the 11th September last.

(signed) *L. R. Reid.*
30 October 1846. *J. P. Willoughby.*
D. Blane.

No. 4181 of 1846.

No. 8121. RESOLUTION of Government in the Political Department.

WITH reference to the petition dated the 20th August last, purporting to proceed from a person named Goolabchund Sheochund; ordered, that the Secretary to Government in the Persian Department be requested to prepare and forward to the Political Department an answer to this petition, informing Goolabchund, that if he will appear in person before the Resident at Baroda, that officer will receive, and institute such inquiry into as may seem necessary, any complaints or accusations he may have to offer against the members of the Residency establishment; or if Goolabchund prefers to appear at the Presidency, he should be informed that he is at liberty personally to lay his complaints before the Secretary to Government in the Political Department.

2. Ordered further, that the Secretary to Government in the Persian Department be requested to forward to the Political Department an English version of this answer.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Bombay Castle, Secretary to Government.
5 November 1846.

No. 4182 of 1846.

No. 8122. From the Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *W. C. Andrews,* Esq., Officiating Resident at Baroda.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you the accompanying letter to the address of Goolabchund Sheochund, in reply to a petition received by post, purporting to proceed from a person of that name, accusing the native agent attached to the Baroda Residency of receiving large bribes from his Highness the Guicowar; and to request that you will endeavour to

to ascertain if there is such a person at Baroda, in which case the enclosed letter should be delivered to him. Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

2. An English version of this letter is herewith forwarded for your information.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
5 November 1846.

Persian Department.

TRANSLATION of a Letter from the Secretary to Government to *Goolabchund Sheochund*, dated 5 November 1846.

WITH reference to your petition, dated the 20th August last, I am directed to inform you, that if you will appear in person before the Resident at Baroda, he will receive and institute such inquiry as may seem necessary into any complaints or accusations you may have to offer against the members of the Residency establishment; or if you prefer to appear at the Presidency, you are at liberty personally to lay your complaints before the Secretary to Government in the Political Department. Govt. Rev. Pol. Department. No. 4181 of 1846.

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Secretary to Government.

(True copy.)
(signed) A. Malet,
Secretary to Government.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 3 December 1846.

No. 75 of 1846.—Persian Department.

MEMORANDUM of Government in the Persian Department. No. 8684.

WITH reference to the Resolution of Government in the Political Department, No. 4181, dated the 5th instant, the Secretary has the honour to forward the accompanying reply to Goolabchund Sheochund, together with a copy of its English version.

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
10 November 1846.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 17 December 1846.

No. 291 of 1846.—Political Department.

From *W. C. Andrews*, Esq., Acting Resident at Baroda, to *Arthur Malet*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay. No. 9030.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to return the accompanying letter, addressed to Goolabchund Sheochund, transmitted with your letter, dated 5th instant, No. 4182, as no such person is to be found residing either in the town of Baroda or this cantonment.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. C. Andrews*,
Acting Resident.

Baroda Residency,
28 November 1846.

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby* and the Honourable Mr. *Blane*.

No. 9031.

THIS letter should be returned to Mr. Andrews, to be retained till claimed by the person to whom it is addressed.

(signed) *L. R. Reid.*
J. P. Willoughby.
D. A. Blane.

7 December 1846.

No. 4648 of 1846.—Political Department.

No. 9032.

From the Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *W. C. Andrews*, Esq., Officiating Resident at Baroda.

Sir,

IN acknowledging the receipt of your letter, dated the 28th ultimo, No. 291, I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to return to you the packet which accompanied it to the address of Goolabchund Sheochund, to be retained till claimed by this individual.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet,*
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
10 December 1846.

(True extract.)

(signed) A. Malet,
Secretary to Government.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 23 September 1846.

Persian Department.

No. 6872.

SUBSTANCE of a Petition from *Ballajee Krushna Mawulkur* to the Honourable the Governor; dated 28 July, and received 12 August 1846.

IN 1844, when the present native agent of the Baroda Residency resigned his dufturdarship in the Revenue Commissioner's Office, where he received 500 rupees per month, and with a view to the acquisition of greater fortune, went to Baroda on a salary of 300 rupees of the Baroda currency, Mr. Boyd, the Resident, being aware of his design, intimated to him at the first meeting, that he was not to visit the city of Baroda, or to live there, but that he was to live in the camp; that he was to have no intercourse either with the people of the Guikwar, or with those of Gungadhur Shastree; and that if he were found to have any intercourse with them, Government would be displeased with him. The native agent had taken up his abode in the Shastree's garden; but, in order to make the Resident believe that his orders were attended to, he looked out for a place in the camp. He afterwards represented to the Resident that the place was not good, and requested permission to live near the gate of the city, stating at the same time, that he would have no intercourse with the people of the city. On this, Mr. Boyd, after furthering lecturing him, permitted him to reside in the city. Mr. Boyd watched his conduct, and so did Mr. Remington after Mr. Boyd's departure from Baroda. During this period, the native agent had no meetings either with the Guikowar's people, or with those of the Shastree, in the day or in moonlight nights. He used to meet them in dark nights. Mr. Ogilvy also watched these proceedings, and suspected the native agent of some irregular acts. Meanwhile, the native agent removed to a place next door, to the house of Rughoonath Muhiput, *alias* Kaka Saheb, a principal man in the affairs of the Guikowar.

The Guikwar had dismissed Asharam Purbhoodass from the office of kumavisdar; but when his Highness learned that he was a great friend of the native agent, who was then about to come to Baroda, his Highness, with the view of securing his assistance by means of Asharam, and getting his affairs settled as he

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

he wished, employed Asharam on a salary of 400 rupees per month, without assigning him any service. Asharam goes at night to the native agent with messages from the Guikwar regarding matters connected with the Residency, and after holding a secret consultation, they fix the amount of bribe to be demanded, and resolve upon the reply to be returned by the Guikwar to a reference made to him by the Company's Government. Asharam then communicates the result to his Highness, and receives the amount of the bribe, which, after a deduction of one-sixteenth part as his commission, he either pays to the native agent, or credits to his account in his (Asharam's) books. This practice has prevailed for the last two years, during which the native agent has received about 50,000 or 60,000 rupees. Whenever there is an important matter to be replied to, Asharam takes the native agent to his Highness at night, and he drafts a reply to be returned to the British Government, and gives it to Asharam. Afterwards, Asharam shows the draft to the Guikwar, and with his Highness's permission gets it copied out by one of the karkoons of the Furnees, and sends it to the Company's Government. Formerly, the karkoons of the Furnees used to draft replies to all references, and to despatch them after his Highness's approval. But after the arrival of this new karbharee of the Company's Government, the drafts were no longer prepared by the karkoons. Every matter was disposed of with the advice of the native agent, and Asharam pretended to draft replies to all the references from the Company's Government. This state of things continued for a year; but when it became known, the business was again entrusted to the karkoons of the Furnees. Such disorder has prevailed here; but Government does not notice it. Before the appointment of this native karbharee, I represented all the circumstances; notwithstanding which, he was sent to this place.

I further beg to represent that the Guikwar lately paid 25,000 rupees to the native agent to enable him to build a house at Ahmedabad. This money was paid to him through a confidential karkoon of the Guikwar. Apprehending that the matter would be known if payment were made in Baroda, the karkoon had the money paid on his own account by Shet Hemabhaee, a banker of Ahmedabad. I beg to forward copy of an order given to the native agent for the money on the above banker; this copy will fully convince Government of the truth of my statement. I have seen no one on the face of the earth who would take an appointment, the emoluments of which are less than those which he receives. The native agent is a man who would sacrifice even his life for the sake of a single copper pice, and he would therefore never accept a situation of less emoluments. However, in the hope of being enabled to make a large fortune, in the same manner as the late native agent, Sarabhae, and others had done, and having been informed by Asharam of the Guikwar's remark to the effect that he, the native agent, would benefit himself if he accepted the situation at Baroda, he, the native agent, came to this place. The officer who is now in charge of the Residency does not personally inquire into matters, but acts according to the representations of the native agent, who is consequently better enabled to receive bribes. As Asharam has been unwell for the last month, and cannot go to the Guikwar, the native agent is very uneasy, and does not attend even to the business in the kutcherry; his mind is wholly taken up with anxiety for Asharam's recovery. The Guikwar is willing to give appointments of 500 rupees each to two of his sons, one of whom has lately come from some sunsthan in the Deccan, but the native agent wishes to have appointments of 1,000 rupees each. As Asharam is unwell, the matter has remained *in statu quo*, and the native agent has detained the son who came from the Deccan, for if the appointments are given, it will not be necessary for him to go back.

I further beg to represent, that a gentleman in Poonah having recommended to the notice of the native agent Bappoo Deokur, who is a karkoon of Gungadhur Shastree, and who is a great adept in the art of chicanery, he Bappoo used to go to him in dark nights and to speak to him about subjects connected with the Shastree's family and other matters. He now goes to him in the day, and, guided by his advice, has created disputes between Bheemajee and Balcrushna Shastree. The native agent considering himself a great man, and regarding Balcrushna Shastree's disputes as unjust, went to him without permission from the Company's Government, and taking the part of Bheemajee Shastree, began to admonish Balcrushna, who, however, would not listen to him. On this the

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

native agent sent word by Bappoo Deokur to Bheemajee, and had fresh disputes created between him and Balcrushna. Having been thus greatly annoyed Balcrushna left the house, and is living separately. Afterwards the native agent induced Bheemajee to make a complaint to the Company's Government, and with the view of getting bribes, intended to have the matter inquired into by the Resident, but this course being opposed to the rules of the sunsthan, he had a reference made to the Guikwar. On this Bappoo Dookur told the native agent that if the Guikwar should dispose of the matter, they would get nothing. The native agent therefore hit upon the plan of having the matter amicably settled by means of arbitrators appointed by both parties, and Bheemajee and Balcrushna accordingly appointed three arbitrators, one of whom was the native agent, and the other two were inhabitants of Baroda. On this the native agent said to Balcrushna and Beemajee that the British Government would reprimand him if informed of his selection; that, therefore, they should select some other person, and that after an inquiry the arbitrators should pass their decision agreeably to his opinion. The Shastrees have accordingly appointed three arbitrators, who are going to make a settlement according to the opinion of the native agent. With the view of having the matter settled in his favour by the native agent, Bheemajee promised, through Bappoo Deokur, to pay 10,000 rupees to the native agent, and passed a writing to him; Bheemajee paid him 5,000 rupees in cash, and passed a writing to him for the remaining 5,000 rupees. A copy of the writing is herewith sent. When Balcrushna requested the native agent to make the settlement in his favour, he required him to pay 20,000 rupees. Balcrushna afterwards agreed to pay 10,000 rupees, and gave him 2,000 rupees worth of gold. But a settlement has not yet been made, nor a writing passed. This negotiation is not known to Bheemajee, but to Bappoo Deokur. The native agent has promised to pay Bappoo 1-16th part of what he may get. Although the native agent is a Government servant, he has, without its knowledge, mixed himself in the arbitration of the case of the Shastrees, who are servants of the Guikwar and the British Government. This is quite irregular. The native agent has, since his arrival here, made a fortune of about 70,000 or 80,000 rupees. Let this be known to Government. I beg Government to take into mature consideration the accompanying copies of writings, which I have procured after much trouble. Mr. Willoughby always watched the proceedings in this sunsthan, but no one does so now. In addition to these there are several other instances of corrupt conduct on the part of the native agent Nurso Luxmon, but I shall bring them to the notice of Government when I get hold of proper evidence. It does not become such a great man to act thus, and I have therefore made this representation to your Honour in Council. On ascertaining whether the native agent has or has not the assistance of the persons mentioned in this letter, your Honour in Council will learn all the particulars.

(signed) *W. Escombe,*
Secretary to Government.

No. 6873.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor.

HAVE we any former representations from Balajee Krooshun Mawulkur, or is it known whether there is such a person, and if so, who he is?

2 September 1846. (signed) *L. R. Reid.*

No. 6874.

MEMORANDUM by the Chief Secretary.

THE Chief Secretary has the honour to state, in reply to the Honourable the President's query, that there are no former proceedings on the records of Government in which the name of the above individual appears, nor anything to show who he is.

(signed) *R. K. Pringle,*
9 September 1846. Chief Secretary.

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor.

No. 6875.

THIS petition was received here by post, I presume from Baroda. It is to me very doubtful whether there will be found such a person as Babajee Krooshun Mawulkur. I am very averse to bringing on record petitions of this nature until it is ascertained whether they are *bonâ fide* written and despatched by the parties whose names they bear, and more particularly so to allowing them to be sent to subordinate departments. If true, they only serve to put on their guard the parties whose conduct is arraigned in them; if false, they give unnecessary pain; while their reception at all may gratify the parties whose ill-feeling may have been the cause of their transmission to Government.

With these views, I would propose that we dispose of this petition by addressing an answer to Babajee Krooshun Mawulkur, informing him, with reference to his petition of the 28th July last, that if he will appear in person before the Resident, that officer will receive and inquire into, as may seem to him necessary, any complaints or accusations he may have to prefer, corresponding orders being at the same time issued to Mr. Andrews; or should this individual prefer to appear at the Presidency, he may do so before the Secretary to Government in the Political Department.

11 September 1846. (signed) *L. R. Reid.*

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby*, subscribed to by the Honourable Mr. *Blane*; without date.

No. 6875 A.

I CONCUR in the course proposed by the Honourable President. The letter should, I think, be forwarded through the Resident at Baroda, with instructions to endeavour to ascertain if there is such a person at Baroda as Ballajee Krushna, and he should, I think, at the same time be informed of the purport of his communication.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby.*
D. Blane.

No. 3537 of 1846.

RESOLUTION of Government in the Political Department.

No. 6876.

WITH reference to the petition, dated the 28th July last, purporting to proceed from a person named Ballajee Krishna Mawulkur, ordered, that the Secretary to Government in the Persian Department be requested to prepare and forward to the Political Department an answer to this petition, informing Ballajee Krishna that if he will appear in person before the Resident at Baroda, that officer will receive and institute such inquiry into, as may seem necessary, any complaints or accusations he may have to prefer against the members of the Residency establishment; or if Ballajee Krishna prefers to appear at the Presidency, he should be informed that he is at liberty personally to lay his complaints before the Secretary to Government in the Political Department.

2. Ordered further, that the Secretary to Government in the Persian Department be requested to forward to the Political Department an English version of this answer.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
17 September 1846. Secretary to Government.

No. 3538 of 1846.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *W. C. Andrews*, Esq., Officiating Resident at Baroda.

No. 6877.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you the accompanying letter, addressed to "Ballajee Krushna Mawulkur," in reply

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

to a petition received by post, purporting to proceed from a person of that name, accusing the native agent attached to the Baroda Residency of receiving large bribes from his Highness the Guicowar, and to request that you will endeavour to ascertain if there is such a person at Baroda, in which case the enclosed letter should be delivered to him.

2. An English version of this letter is enclosed for your information.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Bombay Castle, 17 September 1846. Secretary to Government.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 14 October 1846.

No. 62 of 1846.—Persian Department.

No. 7562. MEMORANDUM by the Persian Secretary.

WITH reference to the resolution of Government in the Political Department, No. 3537, dated the 17th instant, the Secretary has the honour to forward the accompanying reply to Ballajee Krushun Mawulkur, together with a copy of its English version.

(signed) *W. Escombe*,
Bombay Castle, 21 September 1846. Secretary to Government.

Persian Department.

COPY of a Letter from the Secretary to Government in the Persian Department to *Ballajee Krushun Mawulkur*, dated 17th September 1846.

WITH reference to your petition, dated the 28th July last, I am directed to inform you that if you will appear in person before the Resident at Baroda, he will receive and institute such inquiry as may seem necessary, into any complaints or accusations you may have to prefer against the members of the Residency establishment; or if you prefer to appear at the Presidency, you are at liberty personally to lay your complaints before the Secretary to Government in the Political Department.

(signed) *W. Escombe*,
Secretary to Government.

(True copy.)
(signed) W. Escombe,
Secretary to Government.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 3 December 1846.

No. 273 of 1846.—Political Department.

No. 8766. From *W. C. Andrews*, Esq., Acting Resident at Baroda, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to return the accompanying letter, addressed to Ballajee Krishna Mawulkur, transmitted with your letter No. 3538 of 1846, of the 17th September last, as no such person is to be found residing either in the town of Baroda or this cantonment.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. C. Andrews*,
Baroda Residency, 9 November 1846. Acting Resident.

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby* and the Honourable Mr. *Blane*.

THIS letter should have been retained by the Resident, in case the person to whom it is addressed should eventually claim it; it may be returned to him for that purpose. No. 8767.

(signed) *L. R. Reid.*
J. P. Willoughby.
D. A. Blane.

Khandala, 25 November 1846.

No. 4515 of 1846.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *W. C. Andrews*, Esq., Officiating Resident at Baroda. No. 8768.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 9th instant, No. 273, and to inform you that the Mahratta communication to the address of Ballajee Kristna Mawulkur should have been retained by you in case the person to whom it is addressed should eventually claim it; it is accordingly returned to you for this purpose.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
28 November 1846.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 1 September 1846.

PETITION from *Moro Narayen*, Baroda, to his Excellency the Honourable Sir *George Arthur*, Bart., K. C. H., Governor and President in Council, Bombay. No. 6343.

Most humbly showeth,

YOUR petitioner most humbly begs to take the liberty to bring the following circumstances to the notice of your Honourable Board, that they may be fully and strictly inquired into.

The body of Guzerat irregular horse which the Government entertains at the expense of the Guicowar, is considered a very great imposition on him. To get rid of it, Bapoo Anunt and Gunesh Punt, giving him bad counsel, caused Gopalrao Myral to open a firm at Bombay in the time of Sir James Carnac, the late Governor, and receiving from him (the Guicowar) an enormous sum of ten lacs of rupees, through its means persuaded Gunputibava Motie Pursotum and Balajeepunt to go to the late Dhacjee Dadajee, and by their joint consent to carry on all sorts of tricks to the effect. They accordingly went and began writing private letters to Bapoo. In the meantime Heeralal Goverdhundass informed of this to Government, and on searching the firm of Gopalrao Myral, a great many letters which Bapoo wrote to the Ballajeepunt on the subject of bribery were seized, but the contents therein being written ambiguously, Gunputibava and Ballajeepunt, when taken to the police, refused it as a fact, and consequently it was not fully proved. Government, however, being fully convinced in this inquiry that Bapoo and Guneshpunt were the most treacherous persons, directed the late Resident, Mr. Boyd, to prohibit them from having any concern with the Residency, and he did so. Notwithstanding all this his Highness the Guicowar, in order to have Bapoo and Guneshpunt employed at his own Durbar, as well as at the Residency, transmitted a sum of 25,000 rupees in the year 1845 (about Posh or Margsheer) to bribe Mr. Willoughby, so that he may use his influence to obtain a Government order for their free access to the public affairs. Here it is to be remarked, that his Highness the Guicowar, not being severely admonished in the case of Dhackjee, &c., again sent money and tried to blame gentlemen of high offices as taking bribes. It is very astonishing that such tricks should escape the inquiry of Government. Your petitioner begs to enclose a letter for the satisfaction of Government, and

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

requests they will return it to the Resident, with direction to call Naranrao Luxmunjee (a carkoon of Gopalrao Myral), who is well aware of the whole of this proceeding, and to make rigid inquiries, when every trick of his Highness the Guicowar, Bapoo, and Guneshpunt will immediately be found out. In case Narunrao refuse as to his knowledge of it, this enclosed letter to be shown to him, when it would be very difficult for him to deny his own writing. Should it be necessary, your petitioner can give further proofs to the Resident by presenting several other letters of Narunrao (which your petitioner has got from some one), and by the Resident's reference to the accounts of a great banker, in which the above said sum of 25,000 rupees, which was sent for bribe, is duly entered. If Government, after being thus informed to its full extent, with sufficient proofs, overlook this case, people have every reason to suppose that gentlemen holding high offices do take bribes. Mr. Sutherland, the late Resident, being fully convinced that Bapoo and Guneshpunt were the most treacherous persons in the Guicowar's States, expressed his opinion to prohibit them from having any communication in the Residency, and it was subsequently confirmed as aforesaid. It would appear very strange, and unworthy to the eyes of the public, should Government take no notice of these prohibited persons' interference, and giving bad consent in Guicowar's public business; Government will therefore order an immediate and strict inquiry to be instituted about it by the Resident, and thereby put an end to such tricks and treacheries.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Baroda, 5 August 1846. (signed) *Moro Narayen.*

TRANSLATION.

After Compliments.

I HAVE had no letter from you, and have heard no news since Dajeeba was despatched to you with hoondies. Shreemunt Maharaj every day inquires of me whether I have received a letter from Bombay, and I find it very difficult to return a reply. I therefore request that, agreeably to what the Maharaj has told you, you will by some means or other secure the assistance of Mr. Willoughby, and will take such steps as will remove the interdict against the intercourse of Bappoo Saheb, Ungurray Gunesh Punt, and others, five in number, with the Residency, and will enable them to take such part in both the Durbars as they used to do before. If, in order to accomplish this, it should be necessary to pay Mr. Willoughby the whole amount of the hoondees sent to you, you can do so; but before you make any payment you must take care to see Mr. Willoughby yourself, and have a personal conversation with him, and must not depend upon the third party, for now-a-days no one can be depended upon. Bappoo Saheb has also desired me to write to you to say that you must not depend upon the third party, for he, Bappoo Saheb, had in like manner used Gunputtee Bawa and Motee Pooshotum as agents in Dhackjee's case, and spent a large sum of money by relying too much upon them. That Gunputtee Bawa and Ballajee Punt used to write most positively that Motee Poorshotum had every day a personal conversation with Mr. Willoughby, and that he, Mr. Willoughby, was using his endeavours to relieve (the Guicowar) first the charge of the contingent horse. That in consequence of such communications, he, Bappoo Saheb, continued to send the agents money; that no business was, however, done through them; but on the contrary, that he, Bappoo Saheb, got into difficulties, from which he was extricated by his own good luck. Bappoo Saheb has therefore desired me to tell you to be very careful in your conduct, and not to let any one discover you, and before making any payment yourself to Mr. Willoughby, and if he promises to do the business, to inform him that no more money can be paid to him, for if his assistance is secured, and he becomes our protector, there is no difficulty about giving him more money to preserve his good services. We have to get him hereafter to use his endeavours for the discontinuance of the contingent horse. I beg that by some means or other you will arrange so that Bappoo Gunesh Punt and others may be able to take openly such part in both the Durbars as they used to do before, and that you will write to me accordingly. The Maharaj, Bappoo Saheb, and Gunesh Punt wish that when you have a personal meeting with Mr. Willoughby, you will distinctly tell him that what they are going to give him now is a mere trifle, but that if he continues to assist them, they will please him well. Use, therefore, your best endeavours to acquire Mr. Willoughby's favour; pay him yourself the money which has been sent to you, and let me have an early reply; in short, ascertain Mr. Willoughby's intentions regarding the wishes of the Mahraj and Bappoo Saheb, and write to me immediately; we are anxiously awaiting your reply. Place no confidence whatever in the third party, and despatch Dajeeba without loss of time. What more need be written. Dated 9th February 1845. Be kind! This is the prayer.

P. S.—As this letter is written plainly, destroy it as soon as you have understood all the contents; in future I shall not write so plainly, but shall use fictitious names for the different parties; viz., Shetjee (master) for the Maharaj, Viaparee (merchant) for Mr. Willoughby,

Willoughby, and Moorubees (protectors) for Bappoo Sahib and Gunesh Punt. Destroy this letter as soon as you have read it. This is the prayer.

(signed) *Narrayen Rao Luxomon.*

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby* and the Honourable Mr. *Pringle.* No. 6344.

IT is most probable that there is no such person as Moro Narrayen. But assuming there may be such a person, I think a letter should be addressed to him, directing him to appear before the Chief Secretary at Bombay, with such proofs as he may have to adduce, when due inquiry will be made.

(signed) *L. R. Reid.*
J. P. Willoughby.
R. K. Pringle.

26 August 1846.

No. 3247 of 1846.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to *Moro Narrayen*, Baroda. No. 6345.

IN reply to your letter, dated the 5th instant, I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to inform you, that on your appearing before the Chief Secretary to Government at Bombay with such proofs as you may have to adduce in support of the assertions therein contained, due inquiry will be made into them.

By order, &c.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 27 August 1846.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 7 October 1846.

No. 85 of 1846.

From *Ruttonjee Maneckjee*, Post-Office Clerk, Baroda, to the Postmaster-General Bombay. No. 7226.

Honoured Sir,

IN acknowledging the receipt of your letter, No. 1527 of 1846, with its enclosure, being a letter to the address of Moroo Narrayen, I respectfully beg leave to inform you, that in conformity to the instructions contained in your above communication, I made inquiries for the above-mentioned individual, but a person by name Babajee Sudasive Mogee, temporarily residing in this camp, came and demanded of me the letter, saying he is the person who had made a petition to the Honourable the Governor in Council, by Moroo Narrayen's name, but I declined giving it to him, and desired him either to send, or bring with him the man to whom it is addressed; he said that man has gone abroad. Two or three days after Babajee again came to me, accompanied by another man, and said, "This is Moroo Narrayen"; to whom I questioned whether any other person in camp or in town knows him, if so, let him come and tell me, for my satisfaction, that "you are the real person, by name Moroo Narrayen"; he said, he being an inhabitant of Nassick, nobody else knows him except Babajee. This seemed to me doubtful, and consequently I did not give the letter to either of them; I therefore beg the favour of your further instructions on the subject. Babajee Suddasive is very anxious to receive the letter, and is willing to give a receipt for the same.

I remain, &c.

(signed) *Ruttonjee Maneckjee,*
Post-Office Clerk.

Baroda Post-Office,
16 September 1846.

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

No. 7227.

MEMORANDUM by the Political Secretary.

THERE is no letter from the Postmaster-general on this subject. I requested him to discover who received the letter addressed to Moro Narrayen, and this is the reply of his clerk at Baroda, who must have been directed by him to inquire as to the identity of the person calling himself Moro Narrayen.

(signed) *A. Malet,*
Political Secretary.

30 September 1846.

No. 7228.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby* and the Honourable Mr. *Blane.*

OUR object is to discover who is this Mawulkur, and I think we may therefore direct the postmaster to deliver the letter to the Resident, and to inform the party applying for it, Babajee Sudasew, that he has done so, and that the Resident will deliver it to him, after due inquiry whether he is entitled to receive it. The Resident should be instructed accordingly. I scarcely think it necessary that he should insist on the appearance of Mawulkur himself, but he should ascertain who is this Babajee Sudasew, and take his receipt before delivering the letter to him.

(signed) *L. R. Reid.*
J. P. Willoughby.
D. Blane.

1 October 1846.

No. 3716 of 1846.

No. 7229.

From *A. Malet,* Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to *William Courtney,* Esq., Postmaster-General.

Sir,

WITH reference to the letter to your address from the post-office clerk at Baroda, dated the 16th ultimo, I am directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to request that you will instruct that individual to deliver to the officiating Resident, Mr. Andrews, the letter therein alluded to, to the address of "Moro Narrayen," and inform the person named Babajee Suddasew, who has applied for it, that he has done so, and that that gentleman will deliver it to him after due inquiry that he is entitled to receive the same.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet,*
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 2 October 1846.

No. 3717 of 1846.

No. 7230.

From *A. Malet,* Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to *W. C. Andrews,* Esq., Officiating Resident at Baroda.

Sir,

I AM directed to transmit a copy of a petition from a person signing himself Moro Narrayen, and my reply thereto.

2. From a report from the post-office writer at Baroda, it appears that an individual named "Babajee Suddasew Moga," has demanded this letter, on the plea that he had petitioned Government under the name of Moro Narrayen.

3. As the object of Government is to discover who Moro Narrayen is, the Postmaster-general has been requested to direct his clerk at Baroda to make over the above letter to you, and to inform Babajee Suddasew that he has done so, and that you will deliver it to him after due inquiry that he is entitled to receive the same.

4. The Governor in Council, however, deems it scarcely necessary that you should insist on the appearance of "Moro Narrayen" himself, but requests that

that you will in the first instance ascertain who "Babajee Suddasew" is, and take his receipt before delivering the letter to him.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet,*
Bombay Castle, 2 October 1846. Secretary to Government.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 11 November 1846.

No. 242 of 1846.—Political Department.

From *William Charles Andrews*, Esq., Acting Resident at Baroda, to *Arthur Malet*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay. No. 7917.

Sir,

With reference to your letter, dated 2d instant, No. 3717, forwarding copies of a petition from a person signing himself Moro Narrayen, and of your reply thereto, and informing me that the Postmaster-general has been directed to order the post-office clerk at this station, to make over to me the letter addressed by you to that individual, I have the honour to report that the post-office clerk has not yet received instructions for so doing.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. C. Andrews,*
Baroda Residency, 15 October 1846. Acting Resident.

No. 4037 of 1846.—Political Department.

Referred for the report of the Postmaster-general, with reference to the Government letter to his address, dated the 2d instant, No. 3316.

By order, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet,*
Bombay Castle, 24 October 1846. Secretary to Government.

Report by the Postmaster-General. No. 7918.

The Postmaster-general regrets to state, that through oversight, no instructions were issued on Government's letter of the 2d instant. The requisite orders were sent on the 24th instant to the post-office clerk at Baroda to deliver the letter in question to the Resident, and to inform Babajee Suddasew accordingly.

(signed) *A. Ravenscroft,*
Bombay General Post-Office, Postmaster-General.
26 October 1846.

Minute by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby*, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Blane*. No. 7919.

The instructions having now been sent, this may be recorded.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby.*
28 October 1846. *D. Blane.*

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 3 December 1846.

No. 276 of 1846.—Political Department.

No. 8763.

From *William Charles Andrews*, Esq., Acting Resident at Baroda, to *Arthur Malet*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 2d ultimo, No. 3717 of 1846, forwarding copy of a petition from a person calling himself Moro Narrayen, and your reply thereto, I have the honour to report, for the information of Government, that having procured the attendance before me of the individual named Babajee Suddasew Mago, I took down his statement of what he knew regarding the said petition; and he having satisfied me, by the production of the post-office receipt for the packet enclosing the petition to Government, of his title to receive it, I delivered to him your reply addressed to Moro Narrayen. Translation of his statement I beg to forward herewith.

2. I think it may be concluded that Moro Narrayen is altogether a fictitious person, and that Babajee Suddasew is the author of the petition.

3. I have learned from inquiries that I have made respecting this individual, that he was not long ago, as he states, in the service of Bappoojee Annunt "moomin," or chief manager of Gopalrao Myral's affairs. He was also, I understand, in the confidence of Mhadorow Ghajeree and Narranrow Luximon; the latter of whom was also in the service of Gopal Myral, and the former is the dewan of his Highness's concubine, Bheemabhayee, and by their agency he was sent to Bombay about a year and half ago on some secret business of his Highness; to effect which he was entrusted with funds, for a due account of which Moro Luximon became security to the firm of Runchor Jugjewun, in which his Highness has privately a share, in case the business for which Babajee Suddasew was deputed did not succeed. His mission having failed, the security is called on to repay the amount advanced, which Babajee asserts that he duly expended in Bombay.

4. To avoid the inconvenience to which he is personally liable to be subjected in this matter, Babajee now resides in the cantonment; and in order to induce a withdrawal of the pecuniary claims against him, he has recourse to verbal intimidations of exposure; to strengthen which it is thought that he made this petition to Government, of which he makes no secret in influential quarters.

5. I believe this information to be true, and to be relied on, though I do not think it capable of proof; I have notwithstanding thought it my duty to make the Honourable Board acquainted with it.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. C. Andrews*,
Acting Resident.

Baroda Residency,
13 November 1846.

Translation of a Statement of *Babajee Suddasew Mago*, at present residing in the Camp of Baroda; caste, Brahmin; religion, Hindoo; aged 28 years; Inhabitant of Pulaspen, Talooka Tanwell, Zillah Tannah; made before the Acting Resident on the 9th November 1846.

Moro Narrayen, Brahmin Deshust, Inhabitant of Nussick District, but the name of whose village I do not know, made a petition on certain matters to the Bombay Government and, after showing it to me, despatched it by the post. About the month of Shrawun (August), and when he was about to go to Dakore, he told me that if a letter was received in the post office in his name, I was to receive the same for him. On this, I sent word to the post-office Parsee that if a packet be received by post from Government to the address of Moro Narrayen, to send the same to me; accordingly, a packet was received by post to the address of Moro Narrayen; the post-office clerk, after sending me word about it, informed me that it would not be delivered to me, but to bring Moro Narrayen. Two or four days after this, Moro Narrayen came here, whom I sent to the post-office clerk, who told him that he must satisfy him that he is Moro Narrayen. On this, I went to satisfy the post-office clerk that that person was Moro Narrayen, but the post-office clerk was not satisfied, and stated he would return the packet. On this, Moro Narrayen proceeded

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

ceeded to Bombay, saying that he was going there to receive his answer. Where Moro Narrayen is at present I do not know. I got acquainted with him in Bombay. He came here in last Magh (February), and I in Chyter (April); he lived in the city in "Gheekanta" in the house of a Banian, and I reside in camp; he used to come to my house; in Bombay he lived in "Wittulwarree." If the packet received to the address of Moro Narrayen be delivered to me, I shall give a receipt for the same. I know the contents of the petition, and if the Government will order me, I shall prove the same by documents. I was formerly a karkoon of Bappoo Hurgurreca, who discharged me last year in Bhadurput (September), and afterwards I went to Bombay in Kartick (November), and put up near the temple of "Bhooleshwur," in order to look out for an employment. Being now asked if I have any documents to show that Moro Narrayen had authorised me to receive his packet for him, I reply that Moro Narrayen left with me the post-office receipt of the packet containing the petition. I did not tell the post-office clerk that I made a petition in the name of Moro Narrayen, but told him that I was aware of the contents of that petition.

(True translation.)

(signed) *W. C. Andrews*, Acting Resident.

No. 8764.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby* and the Honourable Mr. *Blane*.

I WOULD inform Suddasew Mago, that as the petition presented to Government was signed by Moro Narrayen, Government will give no orders on the subject of it except to Moro Narrayen himself.

(signed) *L. R. Reid.*
J. P. Willoughby.
D. A. Blane.

Khandala, 24 November 1846.

No. 4514 of 1846.

No. 8765.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to *W. C. Andrews*, Esq., Officiating Resident at Baroda.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 13th instant, No. 276, and to request that you will make an intimation to Babajee Suddasew Mogo, the individual therein alluded to, that as the petition presented to Government was signed by Moro Narrayen, no orders on it can be issued except to that person.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
28 November 1846.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 20 January 1847.

Persian Department.

No. 350.

SUBSTANCE of a PETITION from *Babajee Sudasheo*, residing at Baroda, to the Honourable the Governor in Council; dated 30th November, and received 7th December 1846.

MORO NARRAYEN forwarded an English petition to Government, under date the 5th September last. As he was not present here, the Resident took my deposition, and gave me the reply to his petition, intimating that he should appear before the Chief Secretary with his proofs. On receiving this reply, I prepared myself to set out for Bombay, but in the meantime I was laid up with fever. I am now better, and shall appear before your Honour in Council, with my proofs, in the course of a week or two.

(signed) *W. Escombe*, Secretary to Government.

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby* and the Honourable Mr. *Blane*.

No. 351.

THIS may be recorded. If Babajee Sudasheo chooses, on coming down to Bombay, to present a petition in his own name, it can be considered.

(signed) *L. R. Reid.*
J. P. Willoughby.
D. A. Blane.

21 December 1846.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 11 November 1846.

No. 239 of 1846.

No. 8080.

From *W. C. Andrews*, Esq., Acting Resident at Baroda, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council, an original Maratta note to my address, dated the 4th, and received by me on the 9th instant, purporting to have been written by one Gunputrow Sudeshwur Kurre. The note of the 7th September therein alluded to has never reached me.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. C. Andrews*,
Acting Resident, Persian Department.

Baroda Residency,
12 October 1846.

SUBSTANCE of a Memorandum from *Gunputrao Sidheshwur Khurray*, now residing at Bombay, to the Resident at Baroda, dated 4 October 1846.

THE purport of the Guikwar's treaty with Government is, that any communication which he may have to make to the British Government should be made through the Resident, and this course has hitherto been followed. Although you are now the Resident, you have been set aside, and a karkoon on the part of Gopalrao Myral has come to Bombay, and is endeavouring to have the horse question and other affairs of the Guikwar settled. Mahadeo Meghusham Dhenkay and others having come from Baroda, are using their endeavours in the matter. I have the letters which were sent from Baroda regarding the bribes to be given to European gentlemen, and others, to have the affairs favourably settled. On my submitting a memorandum on the subject to the Resident at Sattara, he verbally told me that as the matter related to the Resident at Baroda, I should apply to him; I have therefore addressed this memorandum to you. Gopalrao Myral remits money to his firm at Bombay on various pretexts, and gives bribes on behalf of the Guikwar. It is well known that the firm has been established for the purpose of giving bribes. It will be derogatory to the character of European gentlemen if rumours are spread of their having received bribes. Lacs of rupees have been received in the names of European gentlemen. I forwarded a memorandum to you on the subject under date the 7th ultimo, but having received no reply thereto, I have addressed this. If you will write me to say that you are ready to inquire into the matter, I shall go to Baroda with all the papers. If the reply be sent to the Agent's office at Poonah, it will reach me.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Secretary to Government.

No. 8081.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby* and the Honourable Mr. *Blane*.

MR. ANDREWS should have answered this petition by requesting the petitioner to attend before him, as he offered to do. This course he should now adopt, reporting its result to Government.

(signed) *L. R. Reid.*
J. P. Willoughby.
D. A. Blane.

30 October 1846.

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

No. 4168 of 1846.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to *W. C. Andrews*, Esq., Officiating Resident at Baroda.

No. 8082.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 12th ultimo, No. 239; and to inform you that you should have answered the petition therewith forwarded, by requesting the writer to attend before you, as he offered to do.

2. I am now directed to return you the petition, and to request that you will adopt the course above indicated, reporting the result to Government.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle,
5 November 1846.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 3 December 1846.

From *William Charles Andrews*, Esq., Acting Resident at Baroda, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay. No. 8508.

Sir,

WITH reference to my letter, dated 12th instant, No. 239, I have the honour to enclose, for the information of the Honourable the Governor in Council, another original Maratta note to my address, dated the 16th, and received by me on the 20th instant, purporting to have been written by one Gunput Row Sudeshwur Kurri.

I have, &c.
(signed) *W. C. Andrews*,
Acting Resident, Persian Department.

Baroda Residency,
23 October 1846.

SUBSTANCE of a Memorandum from *Gunputrao Sideshwur Khunay*, residing at Bombay, to the Resident at Baroda, dated 16 October 1846.

THE purport of the Guikwar's treaty is, that any communication which he may have to be made to the British Government should be made through the Resident, and this course has hitherto been followed. Although you now hold the office of Resident in the Guikwar's State, you have been set aside, and a karkoon on the part of Gopal Rao Myral has come direct to Bombay to use his endeavours in the settlement of the horse question, and other affairs of the Guikwar government. Mahadeo Meghusham Dheknay and others have also come from Baroda to use their endeavours in the matter. I have the letters which were sent from Baroda regarding the settlement of bribes to be given to European gentlemen and others to have the affairs favourably settled at Bombay. I forwarded to you two memorandums on the subject, dated respectively the 7th ultimo and the 4th instant, but as I have as yet received no reply, I beg to address this to you. Gopal Rao Myral remits money to his firm at Bombay on various pretexts, and gives bribes on behalf of the Guickwar. Persons who are disposed to receive, receive the bribes. It is well known that Gopal Rao Myral has established the firm at Bombay solely for the purpose of giving bribes. It will be highly derogatory to the character of European gentlemen if their names become known as parties (who received the bribes). Lacs of rupees have been embezzled by making use of the names of European gentlemen. If you therefore let me know that you will inquire into the matter, I shall go to you with the papers. If the reply to this is sent to Soonder Nilajee's oart, it will reach me.

(signed) *A. Malet*, Secretary to Government.

MINUTE by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby* and the Honourable Mr. *Blane*. No. 8509.

MR. ANDREWS may be referred to the letter from Government on this subject, dated the 5th instant.

(signed) *J. P. Willoughby.*
D. A. Blane.

16 November 1846.

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

No. 8510.

No. 4386 of 1846.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Secretary to Government, to *W. C. Andrews*, Esq., Officiating Resident at Baroda.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 23d ultimo, forwarding a further petition to your address, purporting to have been written by one Gunputrao Sudeshwur Kurri, and to refer you to my communication dated the 5th instant, No. 4168, containing the instructions of Government on the subject.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 21 November 1846.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 7 October 1846.

Persian Department.

No. 7231.

SUBSTANCE of a Petition from *Shah Dola Moolchund*, Inhabitant of Ahmedabad, to the Honourable the Governor in Council, dated 27th August, and received 2d September 1846.

WHEN the present Acting Resident at Baroda was Judge at Ahmedabad, Vakeel Manickchund, Hemabhaee, and other Shrawuks received a lac of rupees from the ryots in his name. They stained the character of the Sahib, and ruined the ryots. They now say that Mr. Andrews has sent for them to Baroda; that they will therefore go there and make lacs of rupees, and that they will threaten the Guikwar and get into his service. They are prepared to go to Baroda. I therefore request your Honour in Council to direct the Resident at Baroda to have no intercourse with these rogues. If Government should wish to make inquiries regarding the bribe of a lac of rupees which they received here, I am ready to produce proofs, provided the Collector is directed to issue a proclamation on the subject. The following are the names of the persons who are prepared to go to Baroda, viz.:

Hemabhaee Wukhutchund, and his son Pemabhaee, Vakeel Manichund Motchund, Mugon Kurrumchund, Memsook Panachund of the Dholka party, Pranshunker Hurreram, Gungaram Bhugwan of the Verrungaum party.

These persons are about to go to Baroda. As the Saheb has borrowed 80,000 rupees from Huttebhaee through Vakeel Manickchund and Heemabhaee, he is under obligations to them, and he will therefore hold intercourse with them. They will then threaten the Guikwar and ryots, and exact from them lacs of rupees, at the sacrifice of the character of the Company's Government. The Resident should therefore be directed to hold no intercourse with these people. Moreover, this matter should be made known for the information of Government officers and subordinate servants.

(signed) *W. Escombe*,
Secretary to Government.

No. 7232.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby* and the Honourable Mr. *Blane*.

THIS petition is probably got up by the Misrees, or followers of Vishnoo, who seem to have a deadly enmity with the Shrawuks.

I think it should be disposed of in a similar manner to that recently received from Balajee Kroochee Mawulbhaee; the petitioner being informed that the magistrate of Ahmedabad will be ready to hear any complaints he may be prepared to make, on the subject noticed in his petition of the 27th August.

(signed) *L. R. Reid.*
J. P. Willoughby.
D. A. Blane.

28 September 1846.

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

No. 3718 of 1846.

No. 7233.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay, to *E. G. Fawcett*, Esq., Magistrate of Ahmedabad.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Honourable the Governor in Council to transmit to you the accompanying letter, addressed to Shah Dola Moolchund, in reply to a petition received by post, purporting to proceed from a person of that name, and to request that after acertaining that there is such an individual at Ahmedabad, you will deliver the enclosed letter to him.

An English version of this letter is also enclosed for your information.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 2 October 1846.

No. 3719 of 1846.

RESOLUTION of Government in the Political Department.

No. 7234.

WITH reference to the translation of the petition, dated the 27th August 1846, purporting to proceed from a person named "Shah Dola Moolchund," resolved, that the Secretary to Government in the Persian Department be requested to prepare and forward the Political Department an answer to this petition, informing him that the magistrate of Ahmedabad will be ready to hear any complaint he may be prepared to make on the subject of his petition.

Ordered, that an English version of this letter be also forwarded to the Political Department.

(signed) *A. Malet*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 2 October 1846.

Extract Bombay Poliitical Consultation, 28 October 1846.

No. 66 of 1846.—Persian Department.

MEMORANDUM.

No. 7849.

WITH reference to the resolution of Government in the Political Department, No. 3719, dated 2d instant, the Secretary has the honour to forward the accompanying reply to Shah Dola Moolchund, together with a copy of its English version.

(signed) *W. Escombe*,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 3 October 1846.

TRANSLATION of a Letter from the Secretary to Government in the Persian Department to *Shah Dola Moolchund*, dated 2 October 1846.

WITH reference to your petition, dated the 27th August last, I am directed to inform you that the magistrate of Ahmedabad will be ready to hear any complaint you may make on the subject of your petition.

Govt. Res. Pol. Department. No. 3719 of 1846.

(signed) *W. Escombe*,
Secretary to Government.

(True copy.)
(signed) W. Escombe,
Secretary to Government.

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 3 December 1846.

No. 469 of 1846.—Political Department.

No. 8680. From *E. G. Fawcett*, Esq., Magistrate of Ahmedabad, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 3718, dated the 2d instant, forwarding a letter addressed to Shah Dola Moolchund, and beg to inform you that on inquiry two persons of this name have been found here, but both of them deny having made any petition to Government, and state that they have no complaint to make.

2. No other person of the name is to be found, and the letter alluded to is therefore deposited with the records of the office.

I have, &c.
(signed) *E. G. Fawcett*,
Ahmedabad, 28 October 1846. Magistrate of Ahmedabad.

(True extract.)
(signed) A. Malet,
Secretary to Government.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 26 September 1849.

Persian Department.

No. 7458. SUBSTANCE of a PETITION from *Mehta Hurgowund Asaram*, Inhabitant of Kaira, to the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, dated 13 May, and received 18 June 1849.

I HAVE served Government for 11 years in the mahals of Napar, Thasra, Matur, and Mowda, in the Kaira collectorate. About seven months ago the late Resident, Colonel Outram, having addressed a memorandum to the Collector of Kaira for three karkoons to place in the attached villages of Bulwuntrao Gaekwar, the latter sent three men, and I was one of them. The Resident then employed me as tulathee in Monje Gameta, purgunna Baroda, and I faithfully served there for six months. Under the management of Bulwantrao Gaekwar, it was usual to fix the amount of jumabundee every year, and to recover it from the different parties; the jumabundee deed used to be signed by the 12 mutadars; this year, Sumvut 1905 (A. D. 1848-49), however, the old mutadars having combined together, refuse to agree to the amount of the jumabundee, which they wished to reduce; therefore, a deed was prepared in the name of a sub-sharer, who had come with the patel, and of two other parties, and the amount was fixed at 4,608 rupees, and was divided among the different parties for the purpose of collection. The old mutadars, therefore, bore great ill-will against me, and with a view to ruin me, made misrepresentations at Baroda; they also ill-advised the people of the village; two of them levied a sum of 75 rupees from the ryots, and when this circumstance came to the notice of the Sirkar, a charge of having made secret collections was preferred against the mutadar patel, and an inquiry was set on foot. The case was disposed of by Lieutenant Battye, the Assistant Resident, without any inquiry; he gave orders on the 5th April last to levy a fine of 80 rupees from me, and to dismiss me from the service; I therefore applied to Captain French, but he paid no attention to my representation; I therefore wish to submit an appeal to Government, but I cannot get copies of the proceedings; I applied to the Resident for them, but he would not even receive my application, which I beg to forward herewith. Under the just government of the Company, copies of proceedings are furnished to the parties, but I cannot get them; it is difficult for me to obtain redress. I do not know under what charge I have been fined and dismissed the service; I therefore pray that the Resident may be instructed to permit me to take copies of such parts of the proceedings as I may require. The above is not a Government village; the patels admit of having raised the money from the village,

village, but they are not punished. As they have lost their old "mutas," and as a stranger has been made a mutadar, they bear ill-will against me, and have fabricated charges against me. I submitted two reports on the subject, and karkoon Baba Hybutrao submitted one, but no inquiry was made, and I have been unjustly ruined on the statement of a few of the mutadars; there are no other witnesses; the Resident also did not examine my proofs. If a reference be made to a few respectable men through the Resident, their report will bring the true circumstances of the case to the notice of Government. The mutadar patel Doola Jeejee was requested by the other mutadars to join them in their intrigues, but he refused, and made a representation to the Resident. The four tujweejdars who had been sent by Government to the above village to make inquiries, and to afford me assistance, remained there for 3 ½ months, and had the mutadar patel or the people of the village given me any bribe, he or they would not have failed to make a representation to the tujweejdar; I possessed no authority either to increase or reduce the jumabundee; the settlement is made in the presence of the Residency dufturdar; I therefore pray that the Resident may be directed to furnish me with copies of the proceedings, and to refer the matter to some arbitrators. I beg that the havildar who was always in the village may be examined.

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

(signed) *C. J. Erskine,*
Deputy Secretary to Government.

No. 3180 of 1849.—Political Department.

Document to whom Sent.	For what Purpose.
Officiating Resident at Baroda -	For report.

By order, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet,*
Bombay Castle, 26 July 1849. Chief Secretary.

No. 210 of 1849.—Political Department.

REPORT by the Officiating Resident at Baroda. No 7459.

THE charge against the petitioner was investigated by Lieutenant Battye, Assistant Resident, and pronounced by him proved.

The Officiating Resident went through the proceedings at the request of the petitioner, and confirmed the decision of the Assistant Resident. The request for copies of the proceedings was not complied with, as to give them without authority would be not in accordance with usage.

(signed) *P. T. French,*
Baroda, 5 August 1849. Officiating Resident.

MINUTE by the Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Right Honourable Mr. *Willoughby* and the Honourable Mr. *Blane*. No. 7460.

CAPTAIN FRENCH has omitted to state the charge which was brought against the petitioner; an account of the mode of investigation should also have been submitted; the amount of pay which petitioner received should also have been mentioned.

(signed) *Falkland.*
J. P. Willoughby.
3 September 1849. *D. A. Blane.*

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

No. 3772 of 1849.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Captain *P. T. French*, Acting Resident at Baroda.

No. 7461.

Sir,

With reference to your report dated the 5th ultimo, No. 210, on the petition from Mehta Hurgovind Asuram, dated the 13th May last, I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to inform you that you have omitted to state the charge which was brought against the petitioner, and to submit an account of the mode of investigation; you have also not mentioned the amount of pay which the petitioner received.

2. This information you are accordingly requested to submit to Government.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 8 September 1849.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 18 October 1849.

No. 246 of 1849.—Political Department.

No. 8186.

From Captain *P. T. French*, Acting Resident at Baroda, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

In reply to your letter, No. 3772, of the 8th instant, I have the honour to report, for the information of Government, that the charge against Mehta Hurgovind Assuram was bribery, in having received 40 rupees from the patells of Gameta (Bulwunt Row Guikwar's). The object the patells had in view was to induce the mehta to make up false revenue papers.

2. The mode of investigation was as usual in all such inquiries; evidence was taken before the mehta, and he, when he chose, cross-questioned the witnesses.

3. The salary of the mehta was 12 rupees per month.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. T. French*,
Acting Resident.

Baroda Residency,
13 September 1849.

No. 8187.

Minute by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Honourable Mr. *Willoughby* and the Honourable Mr. *Blane*.

As conviction on an accusation of this description should involve a declaration of incapacity for service under Government, a translation of the proceedings should be sent in.

(signed) *Falkland.*
J. P. Willoughby.
D. A. Blane.

25 September 1849.

No. 4143 of 1849.—Political Department.

No. 8188.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Captain *P. T. French*, Officiating Resident at Baroda.

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 13th ultimo, No. 246, and to request, that as a conviction on a charge of this description should involve a declaration of incapacity for service under Government, you will submit a translation of the proceedings held on the investigation into the charge of bribery preferred against Mehta Hurgovind Asuram.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 1 October 1849.

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 21 November 1849.

No. 4885 of 1849.—Political Department.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Captain *P. T. French*, Officiating Resident at Baroda. No. 9567.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to draw your attention to my letter dated the 1st ultimo, No. 4143, calling for a translation of the proceedings held on the investigation into the charge of bribery preferred against Mehta Nurgovind Asaram.

I have, &c.
(signed) *A. Malet*,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 16 November 1849.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 5 December 1849.

No. 293 of 1849.—Political Department.

From Captain *P. T. French*, Acting Resident at Baroda, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay. No. 9883.

Sir,

IN reply to your letter No. 4143, of the 1st October 1849, I have the honour to enclose translation of the summary in the case of Hurgovind Mehta, in the Guicowar's village Gameta, but which formed part of Bulwunt Row Guicowar's Nemnook, and was under attachment.

2. From the detail given, it will be seen the depositions, &c. are very numerous; and as it will take long to translate them, and copy the translations, I await the further orders of Government on the matter.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. T. French*,
Acting Resident.

Baroda Residency,
14 November 1849.

TRANSLATION of the Proceedings held before Lieutenant M. Battye, Assistant Resident; dated the 5th April 1849.

Hurgovind Asharam Mehta, in charge of Gometa village, belonging to his Highness the Guicowar, but in Bulwunt Row Guicowar's Nemnook, is charged with bribery. In having, prior to the Jumabundee for Sumvut 1905, (A. D. 1848–49) being fixed, received from the patells 40 rupees out of the sum of 75 rupees levied by the latter from the ryots of that village, for that purpose.

The following Papers are recorded:

1. Order on Babajee Hybutrow to institute inquiries into the matter.
2. Babajee Hybutrow's report.
3. List of the contribution levied by the patels in the village.
4. Deposition of Patell Dajee Nurar.
5. Deposition of Bombay Nurar.
6. Deposition of Tuka Rugnath.
7. Deposition of Wujey Sing Nagur.
8. Deposition of Roopa Rama.
9. Deposition of Emam Oolow.
10. Deposition of Runchore Bijjoo.
11. Statement of Mehta Hurgovind Asharam.
12. Deposition of Bhowanee Shamijee Modee.
13. Deposition of Patells Doola Jeejee, and Jalla Weesun.
14. Deposition of Sepoy Bhaejee Remoo.
15. List of the contribution made by Bajee Nurer, and produced by him.

From a perusal of the above documents, and from a minute investigation of the matter, the Assistant Resident records his opinion as follows:

It has been clearly established from the evidence in this case, that Mehta Hurgovind Asharam, in concert with the patells, levied the sum of 75 rupees from the ryots of the said village, from which he appropriated to his own use 40 rupees, with the view of showing a less amount of revenue in the Jumabundee returns than what was just. He, Hurgovind Asharam, is also suspected of having received the remainder, 35 rupees, on the same

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

account; but of which there is not sufficient evidence. Therefore, the mehta has been ordered to refund the above sum of 40 rupees, and an order is issued to the carkoon sent to the village in his place, to recover 35 rupees from the patells who were foremost in levying the contribution. Total 75 rupees, which, on being recovered, should be credited in the accounts of the village to the head of "Seewai Juma."

2. The Mehta Hurgovind Asharam was placed in charge of the village, with the view to protect the interest of that village. He denies all knowledge of the secret contribution levied by the patells, and even when he heard of it, failed to report the circumstances to the Resident. As this is a grave charge against him he is ordered to pay a fine of 40 rupees, which amount is to be credited to the head of "Seewai Juma."

3. The Collector of Kaira recommended Hurgovind Asharam Mehta as a trustworthy person. As he has been found guilty of the charges of bribery and remissness in the performance of his duties, as detailed in the 1st and 2d paras., he is dismissed the service, and his conduct to be brought to the notice of the Collector. This decision has been communicated to the mehta, and should he fail to pay the amount, the same to be recovered from his security.

4. The patells of the village, as zumindars and wuttundars, having been found guilty of the charge stated in the first para., the fine ordered to be recovered from them is remitted, as it would appear that these persons were ignorant until now of the Company's regulations. But 35 rupees mentioned in para. 1st, should be recovered from them, and the carkoon is directed to inform the patells of this decision, as they had permission to return to their village in order to make the Jummabundee collections.

(True translation.)

(signed) *P. T. French,*
Acting Resident.

No. 9884.

MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor, subscribed to by the Honourable Board.

CAPTAIN FRENCH should be informed that it is necessary he should transmit to Government translations of such portion of the evidence as prove the charge, with the defence of the mehta.

(signed) *Falkland.*
W. Cotton.
20 November 1849. *J. P. Willoughby.*
D. A. Blane.

No. 5079 of 1849.—Political Department.

No. 9885.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, to Captain *P. T. French*, Officiating Resident at Baroda.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 14th instant, No. 293, forwarding translation of the summary in the case of Hurgovind Asharam Mehta, in his Highness the Gaikwar's village of Gameta, and to inform you that it is necessary you should transmit to Government translations of such portions of the evidence as prove the charge, with the defence of the mehta.

I have, &c.
Bombay Castle, (signed) *A. Malet,*
26 November 1849. Chief Secretary.

Extract Bombay Political Consultation, 23 January 1850.

No. 316 of 1849.—Political Department.

No. 730.

From Captain *P. T. French*, Acting Resident at Baroda, to *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,

ADVERTING to your letter of the 26th ultimo, No. 5079, I have the honour to forward the translations required in the case of Mehta Hurgovind Assaram, who was lately employed in his Highness the Guicowar's village of Gameta.

I have, &c.
Baroda Residency, (signed) *P. T. French,*
14 December 1849. Acting Resident.

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

Translated Substance of the Deposition of *Patell Bajee Nurur*, of Gumeta Village, before Babajee Heybut Row, Carkoon, sent to investigate the Matter, February 1849.

About two months ago we (patells) collected from the villages a subscription amounting to 75 rupees; it was agreed to levy one rupee from each house, but from some of the poorer people we only got half a rupee; this subscription was raised with a view to induce Mehta Hurgovind Asharam to show a smaller amount of revenue in the Jummabundy return than was actually the case; the mehta agreed to report the amount to be recovered from the village at 3,000 rupees, upon which I gave 40 rupees to Patell Rambhaee to present to the carkoon, the remaining 35 rupees was not given, as the amount to be recovered from the village was not then settled. Some days afterwards the mehta came to me, and asked for the remaining 35 rupees, which I refused to give, as the amount stated by him had not been agreed to by the Sirkar, upon which the Mehta closed the gate of the village, and prevented the people bringing in grass, &c., consequently I was induced to give the remaining 35 rupees to Tuka Ragnath, who was then in the veranda of the Dhurumsullah to make over to the mehta; he went into the Dhurumsullah for that purpose. I gave him the money in presence of the following people: Patells Wujeysing Nugur, Runchor Ujjoo, Roopa Raina, Emam Onlaw; but I can't say positively whether he gave the money to the mehta or not. On my return home, Rambhaee Nurrer told me that he had given the 40 rupees. The mehta promised to return the 75 rupees, if the revenue of the village was fixed at more than 3,000 rupees.

The above was read over to the Assistant Resident in presence of deponent on the 26th March, and pronounced by him to be correct. Patell Bajee, however, has no other witnesses to bring forward; states that the mehta acknowledged to have received the 75 rupees, but that at that time no other person was near. Rambhaee told him that he gave the 40 rupees to the mehta in Baroda, and Tuka Rugnath also informed him that he gave the mehta the 35 rupees in the Dhurumsulla at Gameta. The 40 rupees given to Rambhaee was expressly given as a bribe to the mehta; what Ramabhaee states is false, Tuka Rugnath denies having received the 35 rupees, but Wujeysing and others were present at the time the money was given to him.

Deposition of *Wujeysing Nagur*, caste Kolie; aged 37; before Carkoon Babajee Hybut Row, February 1849.

The people of the village said to us patells, that now that the Company Sirkar had the management of our village, it would be well to raise a subscription to induce the mehta to represent the proceeds of the village to be smaller than was actually the case, and with this intent we raised a sum of 75 rupees to bribe the mehta, who advised us not to agree to give more than 3,000 rupees to the Sirkar. We went into Baroda to have the amount settled, but it was not then effected; when we were about to return the mehta asked for the money, and we gave 40 rupees to Rambhaee to make over to him; the remaining 35 rupees, which was with Patell Bajee Nurur, we brought back to Gameta. A few days after the mehta returned to the village, and demanded the other 35 rupees, saying that if the Sirkar settled upwards of 3,000 rupees on the village, he would return the whole amount, viz., 75 rupees; but we did not give him the 35 rupees, consequently he commenced annoying the villagers, by closing the jampa, &c., and we were at last obliged to give him the rest of the money. Bajee Nurur went and brought the money in a bag, and made it over to Tuka Rugnath, in presence of Eman Onlaw, Runchor Ujjoo, and myself, to give it to the mehta.

(Confirmed before the Assistant Resident, 24 March 1849.)

Before the Assistant Resident.

When Bajee Nurrur made over the 40 rupees to Rambaee, he told him to give it to the mehta to induce him to represent the revenue of the village as less than it actually was; Emam Onlaw and myself were present at the time. What Rambhaee states as to there being nobody present when Bajee gave him the money is not true.

Patell Roopa Rama, before the Karkoon, February 1849, deposes to the same effect as the above two witnesses. His statement was read over to him in the presence of the Assistant Resident, and pronounced to be correct.

Before the Assistant Resident.

Patells Bajee Nurrur and Wujjee Sing Nugur told him that they had given Rambaee 40 rupees to make over to the mehta as a bribe, but was not present at the time. Saw Bajee Nurrur give Tuka Rugnath 35 rupees for the mehta, but knows not whether the money was actually paid to mehta or not; does not know whether there was anything due to the modee or not.

Patell Emam Onlaw deposes before the carkoon to the same effect as the former witnesses, and pronounces his deposition to be correct before the Assistant Resident.

Patell Runchor Ujjoo deposes that a subscription was levied in the village for the purpose of bribing the mehta, to which he subscribed one rupee, but knows not the total amount collected. Bajee Nurrur told him that 35 rupees had been made over to Tuka to give to the mehta, but he was not present at the time.

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

Patell Rambhaee Kurrur states before the karkoon, and afterwards before the Assistant Resident, that Patell Bajee Nurrur gave him 40 rupees to give to the mehta on account of the sum due to the modee; gave the money accordingly to the mehta. Knows not how much had been collected in the village, or for what purpose the subscription was made; when Bajee Nurrur gave him the 40 rupees for the mehta nobody else was present. Is acquainted with the modee who supplied them with food in Baroda, but does not know his name; can't say whether the mehta paid the money to him or not.

Modee Bowanee Shamjee, of Baroda, deposes before the Assistant Resident, on the 26th March 1849.

The patells of Gameta were fed from his shop when in Baroda, on account of which they paid him seven rupees; they still owe him 20 rupees; with the exception of the seven rupees above-mentioned, he has received nothing on their account.

Patell Tuka Rugnath deposes before karkoon and Assistant Resident. A subscription was raised in his village, to which he gave one rupee, but knows not for what purpose; the head patells know; denies having received the 35 rupees from Bajee Nurrur to give to mehta, and knows nothing about it.

Deposition of *Mehta Hurgovind Asaram* before the Assistant Resident, on 26th March 1849.

Was not aware of the patells of the village having raised a subscription, as they never spoke to him on the subject; he was sent by the Sirkar to look after the interests of the village, but until the karkoon came from Baroda to inquire into the circumstances, was not aware of what had taken place. After the "Ankra" had been settled with Patell Rambhaee, Bajee Nurrur and other patells were going to Baroda; heard them talking to themselves about having raised a subscription; on asking Bajee Nurrur the meaning of it, he denied the fact; when the patells returned from Baroda, he commenced making the revenue collection, and made no further inquiries regarding the subscription, which he knows nothing about. Did not report the circumstance, because he failed in procuring positive information on the subject; was never consulted by the patells relative to decreasing the ankra of the village, and knows nothing of the story concocted regarding the 3,000 rupees. Did not receive either the 40 rupees from Rambhaee, or 35 from Tuka. The havildar was placed at the zampa, to prevent people going out until they had been spoken to regarding their not bringing the grain from their fields to the kullee, when they agreed to do so, the havildar was removed. When Bajee Nurrur, Wujjee Sing Nagur, Roopa Rama, and Emam Onlaw and others refused to accept the ankra at the terms offered by the Sirkar, Carkoon Jewereelall, deponent and others persuaded Rambhaee to agree to the arrangement, and take it by himself, which is the reason of the other patells being so inveterate against him. Patell Bajee Nurrur tried to induce Rambhaee and Tuka to say they had given him (the mehta) money as a bribe, but they refused to say anything of the sort, and repeated the circumstance to deponent in presence of some people of the village, who will confirm the story; and the enmity thus occasioned, which is so common amongst this class of people, will become apparent. Rambhaee is concerned with the other patells to ruin deponent; when Rambhaee consented to the terms offered by the Sirkar, Bajee Nurrur was present, and he was advised to accept, but refused. It was not in his power either to increase or diminish the ankra of the village. Rambhaee never gave any money, but said that he had been induced to say that he had done so by Bajee Nurrur and Wujjee Sing.

(True translation.)

(signed) *M. Battye*, Assistant Resident.

No. 781. MINUTE by the Right Honourable the Governor, concurred in by the Board.

I AM of opinion that the evidence is insufficient for the conviction of Hurgovind Asharam on the charge of bribery. There are discrepancies in the evidence of Rambhaee and the others, the former stating that no one was present when he received the money to pay to Hurgovind. The witness, Rambhaee, should have been more closely examined; he does not depose in what town or house he gave the money, whether any person was present or not. Tuka Ragnath denies that he received any money to give to the mehta.

The Acting Resident should be informed that, in cases of this description, it is of the greatest importance that an innocent man do not suffer, while it is equally so that if guilty he should not escape. In the present instance, though the suspicion is sufficient to warrant the dismissal of the mehta, yet the impression is left, by the incompleteness of the inquiry, that he may be innocent.

Under these circumstances, I would direct the refund of the fine levied from him,

him, but that from the patells should be collected and credited to the revenue account.

Charges of Bribery against Native Establishment of Baroda Residency.

(signed) *Falkland.*
W. Cotton.
15 January 1850. *J. P. Willoughby.*
D. A. Blane.

No. 450 of 1850.

From *A. Malet*, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, to Captain *P. T. French*, Officiating Resident at Baroda. No. 782.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Right honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 14th ultimo, No. 136, with enclosures, connected with the case of Mehta Hurgovind Asaram, lately employed in his Highness the Guickwar's village of Gameta.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you, that his Lordship in Council considers the evidence taken in this case insufficient for the conviction of Hurgovind on the charge of bribery. There are discrepancies in the evidence of Rambhaee and other witnesses, the former stating that no one was present when he received the money to pay the mehta. This witness, I am desired to observe, should have been more closely examined; he does not depose in what town or house he gave the money to Hurgovind, or whether any person was present or not. Tuka Rugnath, another evidence, denies that he received any money to give to the mehta.

3. I am further desired to inform you, that in cases of this description, it is of the greatest importance that an innocent man do not suffer, while it is equally so that if guilty he should not escape; and to state that in the present case, though the suspicion is sufficient to warrant the dismissal of the mehta, yet the impression is left, by the incompleteness of the inquiry, that he may be innocent.

4. Under these circumstances, his Lordship in Council directs the refund of the fine levied from Hurgovind, that from the patells of Gameta being collected and credited to the revenue account.

5. The mehta has, in reply to his petition, dated the 13th May last, been referred to you.

I have, &c.
Bombay Castle, (signed) *A. Malet*,
22 January 1850. Chief Secretary.

No. 451 of 1850.

RESOLUTION of Government in the Political Department. No. 783.

WITH reference to the translation of a petition from Mehta Hurgovind Asaram, dated the 13th May last; Ordered, that the petitioner be referred, through the Persian Department to the Acting Resident at Baroda.

Bombay Castle, (signed) *A. Malet*,
22 January 1850. Chief Secretary.

(True extract.)
(signed) A. Malet, Chief Secretary.

BIBL. LONDIN. UNIV.